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CHURCHILL TO ADDRESS CONGRESS

Departure To US May Be Delayed

Washington, Dec. 21.

Vice-President Alben Barkley announced tonight that the British Prime Minister, Mr Winston Churchill, will address a joint session of the United States Congress during his official visit to Washington in January.

The session is scheduled for January 17 or thereabouts.

Mr Barkley, whose duties include those of President of the Senate, told the Press he was in contact with the House Speaker, Mr Sam Rayburn, and was planning all the arrangements with him.

Atlantic storms are expected to delay by 24 hours the departure of the British Prime Minister [illegible] Queen Mary on December 29, but the time of the present passage is already running 18 hours late owing to high winds in the Atlantic.

Mr Churchill, with a party of about 30, was due to leave for New York on the Queen Mary on December 29, but the time of the present passage is already running 18 hours late owing to high winds in the Atlantic.

[illegible] York.

The six-day delay will give Mr Churchill a little more time to [illegible] Mr Morrison, the Secretary of State for Colonial Affairs, Mr Oliver Lyttelton, who returned from Singapore today.

The Cabinet may also have more time to consider Korea, the formation of an European army and other problems Mr Churchill has to discuss with President Truman.—France-Presse and Reuter.

BIG FOUR MEETING

London, Dec. 21.

Mr Winston Churchill will not [illegible] President Truman for a Big Four meeting [illegible] with the Soviet Premier, Josef Stalin, [illegible] source said today.

The [illegible] received no [illegible] last week the green light from the French for such a session, but the [illegible] said that Mr Churchill himself did not think that the time was ripe. They said that Britain's main aim at the coming Big Four meeting [illegible] would be from the Soviet Union [illegible] Far East.—Reuter.

First This Winter

Parts of England last week experienced the first fall of snow this winter. Picture shows thatched cottages at Ampthill, Bedforshire, blanketed in snow, and making a seasonal prelude to Christmas.

Lie Detector To Prove Loyalty

Washington, Dec 21.

An Atomic Energy Commission spokesman said today that [illegible] officials have condemned newspaper reports that some United States Government agencies were using the detector tests to determine the loyalty of employees.

The spokesman told a reporter that periodic lie tests were required only of persons who held a "few critical positions" at the Government's Oak Ridge (Tennessee) atomic energy plant and always voluntarily.

A State Department spokesman said that some of its employees who were being investigated as possible security risks took the detector tests voluntarily. But the results were not regarded as "in any way conclusive."

Officials of the Central Intelligence Agency—which the reports had said required every applicant to submit to the lie detector—declined to talk about it.—Reuter.

New Aids Invented For Troops

Paris, Dec 21.

Invisible head-lights which will allow convoys of Army lorries to move at night without being seen by enemy aircraft and an infra-red ray gunsight enabling a soldier to sight a target in darkness will soon be put at the disposal of the Atlantic Pact forces, a French Army spokesman said here today.—Reuter.

Soviet Shake-Up In Austria

New Kremlin Policy Forecast

Vienna, Dec. 21.

A big shake-up in the Soviet occupation of Communist Austria was reported today.

Western Allied occupation officials speculated that the shake-up heralds a more conciliatory Kremlin policy in four-power relations in this tiny land. Three Deputies to the Russian High Commissioner have left Vienna recently and have been replaced.

Russian troops occupy one-fourth of Austria. Britain, France and the United States occupy the rest of the country. Austria is the only place in the world where the big four meet regularly to discuss common problems.

The Russians have stalled and prevented the signing of a treaty that would end the occupation of Austria. They have urged the West to keep many controls, like censorship over Austria.

LATEST CHANGES

According to Western officials, the following changes have been made:

M. E. Koptelov, Russian Minister to the Austrian government and Political Adviser to the High Commissioner, has been replaced by a newly arrived Moscow Foreign Official named Kudryassiev. Kudryassiev has yet to make an appearance at four-power meetings in Vienna.

Maj-Gen. G. K. Zinev, former Deputy High Commissioner, has been recalled to Moscow and replaced by Maj-Gen. V. Kraskevich. In the last few days Kraskevich has been describing himself as "Acting High Commissioner."

Maj-Gen. S. E. Maslov, former Assistant Deputy High Commissioner, has left Vienna and has been replaced by Col. D. Chernichenko.

"There is no sign that the shake-up means the Russians are going to leave Austria," an American official said. "But it looks as if Moscow's be-nice campaign around the world is spreading here."—Associated Press.

Fog As Prelude To Christmas In Europe

London, Dec. 21.

Fog or heavy overcast cloud disorganised air traffic in parts of Central Europe today but in Scandinavia the weather was clear and sunny.

Nearly all air services to and from London were affected by black smoky fog, which descended at intervals during the day but airliners flew off for Europe and South America when it lifted later.

In Paris, mist patches remained after the morning fog had dispersed but hundreds of intending passengers were held up by a strike of Air France crews.

Many Britons were wondering whether they would be able to get home for Christmas. The French railway authorities, appealed to for help, said that all their coaches were already in service to cope with the Christmas rush.

One to six degrees of frost were forecast for Paris tonight. Geneva's fog entered its eighth consecutive day today, continuing the tie-up of all air traffic.

BLANKETED

Central and South Germany today was covered with a blanket of fog, which seriously hindered all air traffic. Places over 1,500 feet above sea level, however, were free of fog and enjoyed mild, sunny weather.

Holland was mostly blanketed with a light fog and had a temperature of 43 degrees Fahrenheit.

At Schipol, planes came in during temporary brighter periods.

Sweden had clear weather with sunshine in places, Stockholm reported. In Oslo, the shortest day of the year was one of the brightest for weeks.

With sunny weather, Belgians are giving up their hopes of a white Christmas.

The French air strike called by the crews' union to back their demands for a 66 per cent rise in pay and better conditions was effective in Paris, Marseilles, Tunis and Casablanca airports.

No Air France plane left Nice for Corsica, which very largely depends on its daily planes for its links with the mainland.

Only postal services and services to the Far East were exempt from the strike, the letter being carried on to avoid interference with France's war effort in Indo-China.—Reuter.

Men Trapped On Sinking Ship

Nicosia, Dec. 21.

The British ship, Prolock Hill, stranded on a sandbank off Cyprus tonight, broke in two with the master and several crew members believed trapped on board.

She broke up when a new storm blew up tonight, lashing the battered ship with torrential rain.

Officers in charge of rescue operations said that three sailors were drowned and four "missing" after an attempt just before dusk to save the men marooned aboard.

Eight were brought ashore and given first aid.—Reuter.

Wounded Girl Returning

London, Dec. 21.

Miss Daphne Mainds, wounded by the Communists who said they caught her spying for Britain in Czechoslovakia, will fly from Prague to London today, the Foreign Office announced.

The Foreign Office said Miss Mainds, secretary at the British Embassy, had recovered from a minor operation necessitated by the gunshot wound. The Office added that it did not yet know the time of her arrival.—United Press.

Canberra Jet Bomber Explodes In Mid-Air

FAMED BRITISH PLANE MEETS WITH DISASTER

Baltimore, Dec. 21.

The British Canberra bomber, which flew the Atlantic recently in record time, exploded in the air and crashed into a river flowing into Chesapeake Bay from Baltimore today, according to reports here tonight.

First reports said that a Navy plane had pulled a man out of the wreckage.

The Navy air station at Annapolis said that it had indirect word that some survivors were rescued.

The Canberra was carrying two American Air Force fliers. One is believed dead, the other seriously injured.

An official of the Glenn Martin Company said it was understood that the plane involved was the first of two Canberras flown over the Atlantic by British Air Force men. The official said that the plane left the Glenn Martin airport with a crew of two.

The Glenn Martin Company is to produce Canberras for the United States Air Force. The official said that so far none had been built here.—Reuter.

Valley Set Ablaze By Jet Planes

Seoul, Dec. 22.

Jet warplanes of the Fifth Air Force fire-bombed a whole valley full of Communist supplies on Friday in the day's most spectacular action.

A group of F-84 Thunderjets of 136th Wing screamed down on an enemy supply dump near Kunu-ri.

Leading the fliers was Lt-Col. Ira M. Sussky who said: "We went in low and dropped our fire bombs on everything that looked like supplies. In about a minute the whole valley was blazing."

Air action picked up in a clearing skies as ground fighting dragged. Most of the Fifth Air Forces 477 sorties were aimed at main enemy supply routes in northwestern Korea. Enemy rail lines were cut in 92 places during the day. Along the principal rail lines between Sinanju and Sukchon, Thunderjets blasted out 29 rail cuts.

Sorties of 40 Red infantrymen who attacked Allied positions northwest of the Punchbowl area on the eastern front early Friday morning were repulsed after a 35 minute fire-fight. A similar number of enemy unsuccessfully hit the same positions a few minutes earlier.

In the same area a later enemy probe was beaten off after a half hour engagement that ended at 4:37 a.m.—Associated Press.

Serious East London Fire

London, Dec. 21.

Flames leaped through rail depots in the city of London's east end tonight as firemen battled against "London's worst fire since the blitz."

With over 60 mobile pumps and hundreds of firemen in action, the fire took a heavy toll of the fire-fighters, putting nine of them out of action in the first two hours of the blaze.

It was further reported that some of the firemen had been trapped under falling masonry.

Police cordon cut off the fire area from the public as ambulance dashed through the city carrying burned and injured persons to the London hospitals.—France-Presse.

Stalin's Birthday

Berlin, Dec. 20.

East German workers today presented Marshal Stalin with an electric cash register for his 72nd birthday.

The gift was one of hundreds made to the Soviet leader by East German groups.—Reuter.

ANOTHER CRASH?

Newhall, Calif, Dec. 21.

Emergency mountain rescue squads and search planes from Los Angeles combed the rugged Tehachapi Mountains dividing South California and the San Joaquin Valley after a plane was reported to have crashed there today.

They found no wreckage.

People living in the district reported to the sheriff's office that they had seen a plane trailing fire as it crossed Frazier Mountain today.

But after an intensive hunt the searchers could not find the supposed wreckage.

Despite indications that only rumours had caused the flurry of "crash" calls search planes and experienced mountain rescue teams were sent out to hunt for any wreckage.—Reuter.

King's Broadcast

London, Dec. 21.

King George has recorded his Christmas Day broadcast to the peoples of the Commonwealth because his voice "has not yet completely regained its normal strength" following his serious lung operation last September, it was officially announced tonight.

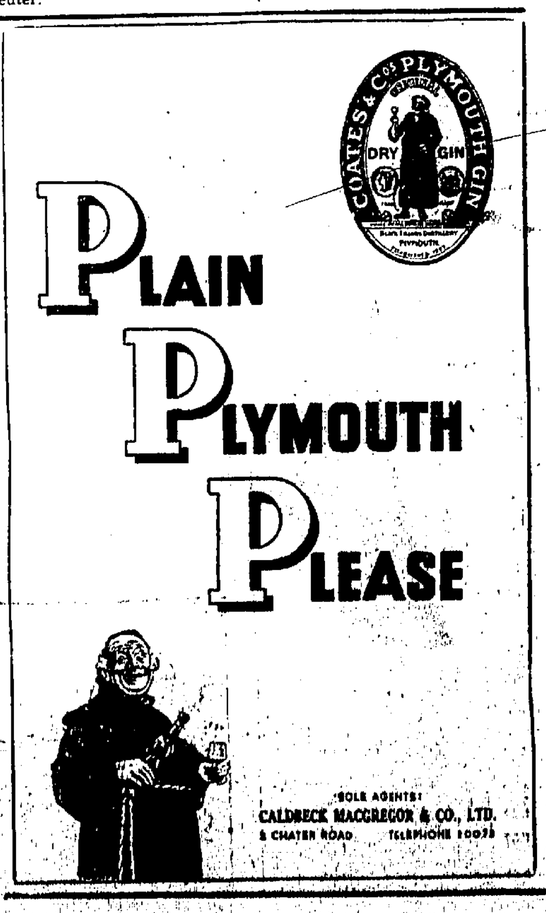
This will be the first time that a recording has been used in a Royal Christmas message.—Reuter.

STOP PRESS

COMMENT OF THE DAY

Strong Measures Required

REVELATIONS made by Dr the Hon. K. C. Yeoh concerning the incidence of venereal disease in Hongkong are grim and disconcerting; all the more so because his figures represent only the known cases, and much of the incidence in the Colony remains unreported and therefore undetected. There can be no disagreement with the Medical Department's proposals for trying to tackle the problem so far as they go, and there is reason to expect that in due course there will be some reduction in the officially known incidence. The only doubt arising is whether the new Venereal Diseases Ordinance is wide enough in its scope for tracing hidden infectious cases. Principal sources for the spreading of the diseases undoubtedly are the so-called sly prostitutes, who, however, are anything but sly or furtive in plying their profession in Hongkong. They make themselves as obvious in the streets, and solicit with an abandon that compares with the scenes that nightly featured the old Red Light districts of Wanchai and Temple Street. There is no difficulty, therefore, in identifying these women and young girls, or in keeping track of their movements. The Acting Director of Medical Health and Services carefully pointed out to Legislative Council on Wednesday that a considerable amount of legislation exists aimed at dealing with prostitution, soliciting for immoral purposes, keeping brothels, and the forcing of girls into immoral livelihood. These, theoretically, serve to bolster the latest Ordinance directed towards the control and reduction of venereal disease in Hongkong. There are, however, extraordinarily few prosecutions in the course of a year under those "bolstering" Ordinances, and prostitutes on both sides of the harbour appear to enjoy a remarkable freedom in the exercising of their profession. A known prostitute who remains free from compulsory medical examination is an ever-present menace to the health of the community; more so as it is known that numbers of them indulge in self-treatment for their diseases or go to unregistered "quacks" for cure. Nothing is suggested in the new Ordinance that the Medical and Health Services Department possesses any statutory control over these women. The Department is required to receive two separate reports naming any person a suspected source of infection before suitable action can be taken — a proper sort of protection against the lodging of scurrilous and unwarranted allegations. But in the case of prostitutes it overlooks realities, which are that these women will seldom, if ever, voluntarily acknowledge their condition to a registered practitioner or to the Medical Department. In effect, therefore, the most dangerous source of VD infection remains at large, with the Authorities helpless to take the necessary remedial measures. Non-official recognition of the presence of prostitutes in the Colony does not alter the all too well established fact that they do exist—and in disturbing numbers. It would appear, however, that no legal powers exist for a wholesale round-up of prostitutes; in any event this would probably not be feasible. What might be practicable is for the new Ordinance to include a provision whereby the Medical Department can carry out compulsory examinations of women found to be practising prostitution in proven brothels. And with more frequent raids by the Police on houses of ill repute, the medical authorities could expect to discover many sources of infection which would otherwise remain unknown and undetected. The fight against the spreading of VD incidence calls for strong measures.



Your Radio Listening For Next Week In Detail—A "China Mail" Feature

Christmas Programmes Over Radio Hongkong

Radio Hongkong will be on the air all day on Christmas and Boxing Day, and, as space does not allow much detail, we give you a brief outline of the holiday programmes.

Most important of these, is, of course, the now traditional Christmas message from His Majesty King George VI to his peoples throughout the world. The King's broadcast will be heard in Hongkong at 11 o'clock on Christmas night, and will be preceded at 10 p.m. by a BBC world-wide exchange programme called "The Gifts of Christmas"—the theme of which this year is the contribution, in the widest sense, that men make to the service of mankind. Then at 11.45 p.m. Radio Hongkong is relaying the Christmas talk by the Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral.

Earlier on Christmas evening, listeners in Hongkong can hear a short programme from London called "Christmas Bells," in which Stuart Hibberd introduces the pealing of bells in churches over the British Isles and in Bethlehem.

A special message of greeting to Far East Land Forces comes from their Commander-in-Chief in Singapore, General Sir Charles Keightley, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., at 5.40 p.m. on Christmas Eve. And on the lighter side for the Services, Lance Howard spends Christmas with the Forces Overseas in a programme called "Rangers' Re-Enlistment Bureau." The BBC Variety programme on the Far East Service (BBC) on Christmas Day will be recorded in the Hongkong Studios at 6.02 p.m. on Christmas Eve. Artists may hear the Christmas Carol broadcast by the Choir of the Roman Catholic Cathedral in Hongkong.

There will be no Saturday Roundup this evening at 8.15 p.m. instead, Radio Hongkong hopes to be able to broadcast a radio-telephone exchange of greetings between Hongkong and Korea. Mr Tony Pronier, who is with the Cable and Wireless Telecommunications Unit in Korea, will introduce Noel Monks, the Daily Mail War Correspondent, and in Hongkong Bill Priddy will call upon two servicemen here, who have served in the Korean War, to speak to men who are serving there at present.

Christmas Eve Roundup comes at 7.30 p.m. on Monday.

There Christmas with Meet-the-Forces at 9.30 a.m. on Christmas Eve at St. James's Palace. Entertainers on this occasion will be the Band of the Welsh Guards, conducted by Lt. F. L. Statham, the Palace Group by Isidore Arkin, Mantelpiece Blues Now Symphonic Orchestra.

The Christmas Day programme will include a broadcast of Divine Service from the Chapel Royal, St. James's Palace, at 11 o'clock. The Sermon will be preached by the Bishop of Fulham, the Right Rev. Noel Hudson, and the Choir will be conducted by Dr. Harold Darke. The Organist will be Mr. Ernest Bullock. The Christmas Day Forces Programme will be broadcast from 1.15 p.m. to 2.30 p.m. and will include a recording of the Christmas Day Service from the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Melbourne, Australia.

Boxing Day programmes will include a broadcast of the Christmas Day Service from Canterbury Cathedral at 11 o'clock. The Sermon will be preached by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Geoffrey Fisher. The Choir will be conducted by Dr. Bullock. Boxing Day Forces Programme will be broadcast from 1.15 p.m. to 2.30 p.m. and will include a recording of the Christmas Day Service from the Chapel of the Royal Military College, Duntroon, Australia.

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BBC Overseas Shortwave Programmes

(6.15-9.15 p.m. on 17.790 Mc/s, 16.86 m; 9.15 p.m.-12.15 a.m. on 11.75 Mc/s, 25.53 m.)

SATURDAY, DEC. 22

6.15 p.m. SPORTS ROUND-UP
7.00 THE NEWS
7.10 NEWS ANALYSIS
7.15 PROGRAMME PARADE
7.50 FROM THE EDITORIALS
7.56 FORCES' FAVOURITES
8.00 Murdoch and Horne in "OVER TO YOU"
8.30 VOICE OF THE VIOLIN OR COLONIAL QUESTIONS
8.45 SCIENCE IN EVERYDAY LIFE
9.00 THE NEWS.
9.10 HOME NEWS FROM BRITAIN
9.15 LISTENERS' CHOICE
Light Music
10.00 Big Ben RADIO NEWSREEL
10.15 TWENTY QUESTIONS
10.45 DANCE MUSIC
(Arrangements on records)
11.00 WALES v SOUTH AFRICA
A commentary on the second half of the Rugby Union International match at Cardiff
12.00 THE NEWS.
12.10 NEWS ANALYSIS

SUNDAY, DEC. 23

6.15 p.m. SPORTS ROUND-UP
7.00 THE NEWS
7.10 NEWS ANALYSIS
7.15 PROGRAMME PARADE
7.20 FROM THE EDITORIALS
7.30 ENGLISH MAGAZINE
8.00 CALLING ALL FORCES
Ted Ray introduces a programme for Services overseas with guests and a special co-star.
9.00 THE NEWS.
9.10 HOME NEWS FROM BRITAIN
9.15 MUSIC FROM GRAND HOTEL
The Palm Court Orchestra Directed by Tom Jenkins.
10.00 Big Ben RADIO NEWSREEL
10.15 Excerpts from Handel's "MESSIAH"
BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, BBC CHORUS
Conducted by Charles Groves.
Isobel Baillie (soprano), Kathleen Ferrier (contralto), Richard Lewis (tenor) and Norman Walker (bass)
11.15 PROGRAMME PARADE
11.30 Ted Ray in 'RAY'S A LAUGH'
12.10 THE NEWS.
12.10 NEWS ANALYSIS.

MONDAY, DEC. 24

6.45 p.m. SPORTS FIXTURES.
For the Christmas holiday and a report on the day's play in the Third Cricket Test Match, Australia v. West Indies.
7.00 THE NEWS.
Programme Parade
7.10 NEWS ANALYSIS.
7.15 Interlude
7.20 FROM THE EDITORIALS.
7.30 CHRISTMAS HALF-HOUR.
A composite programme of community carol singing, recorded by members of the Forces in Korea, the West Indies, Singapore, Malta, and Egypt.
8.00 SOUVENIRS OF MUSIC.
BBC Revue Orchestra.
8.45 LETTER FROM AMERICA.
By Alistair Cooke.
9.00 THE NEWS.
9.10 HOME NEWS FROM BRITAIN.
9.15 'THE SMALL VOICES'.
A Christmas play by Norah C. James and Robert Turley; Produced by Frederick Bradnum.
9.45 'WASSAIL! WASSAIL!'
A Christmastide programme by The BBC Singers; Conductor, Leslie Woodgate.
10.00 Big Ben. RADIO NEWSREEL.
10.15 Concert Version of 'THE BEGGAR'S OPERA.'
By John Gay: As performed at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, with new settings of the airs by Frederic Austin; Peachum—Kenneth Ellis; Lockit—Frederick Harvey; Macheath — Fabian Smith; Filch—Max Worthley; Mrs Peachum—Marjorie Thomas; Polly Peachum—Doris Gambell; Lucy Lockit—Joan Price; BBC West of England Singers; Chamber Orchestra drawn from the BBC West of England Light Orchestra. Conductor, Reginald Redman.
11.30 PROGRAMME PARADE
Bimbo Hale and Sonnie Hale in 'ALL HALF'
Written by Laffue Wagram. BBC Variety Orchestra conducted by Charles Prentice. Production by Bernard Hepton.
12.00 THE NEWS
12.10 NEWS ANALYSIS

CHRISTMAS DAY

6.15 p.m. SPORTS ROUND UP
7.00 THE NEWS
7.10 CHRISTMAS HYMN
7.11 CHRISTMAS BELLS
From Bethlehem, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, Canterbury Cathedral, St. Cuthbert's Church, Edinburgh, St. Martin's Church, Birmingham, St. John's Church, Cardiff, a country church in Berkshire, St. John's Church, London. Programme compiled by Stuart Hibberd.
7.31 PROGRAMME PARADE
7.50 FORCES' FAVOURITES
8.00 HENRY'S HALL'S GUEST NIGHT
Highlights of the Show World invited to listen to Stars of yesterday and to-day. Produced by Jack Hylton.
8.30 CAROLS FROM KING'S COLLEGE CHAPEL, CAMBRIDGE.
9.00 THE NEWS
9.10 Interlude
9.15 SONGS OF THE BRITISH ISLES
Mavis Lawson (contralto), Owen Wooder (tenor), Bruce Dargavel (bass-baritone) and the BBC Opera Group and Chorus conducted by Stanford Robinson. Produced by Gwen Williams and Stanford Robinson.
10.00 Big Ben. THE GIFTS OF CHRISTMAS.
A world-wide link-up with the Commonwealth, the Far East, the United States of America, Europe and the United Kingdom. Introduced by John Gaisford. Produced by Laurence Gilliam.
11.00 Christmas Message by HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE VI
11.15 Recital by CYRIL SMITH and PHYLLIS SELLICK (two pianos)
11.45 CHRISTMAS TALK.
By the Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral, London (the Very Rev. W. R. Matthews, D.D.)
12.00 THE NEWS.
12.10 'UNUSUAL TALES.'
By H. G. Wells: 'The New Accelerator'; Bristow—Preston Lockwood; Gibberne—Godfrey Kenton; Wallaby—Bryan Powley; Clara—Sarah Leigh; Other parts played by Duncan McIntyre, Susan Richards, and Ronald Sidney: 'The Stolen Bacillus': The Bacteriologist—Arthur Ridley; Minnie—Gladys Spencer; Martha—Denise Bryer; The Anarchist—Preston Lockwood; Other parts played by Harry Hutchinson, Duncan McIntyre, and Ronald Sidney. The plays adapted by Felix Felton and produced by Martyn C. Webster.

BOXING DAY

6.45 p.m. SPORTS ROUND-UP
7.00 THE NEWS.
7.10 PROGRAMME PARADE.
7.15 FRANKIE HOWERD spends his Christmas with the Forces Overseas
Together with a company of star artists; Members of the three Services will also take part in the show from Hamburg, British Zone, Germany. Produced by Dennis Main Wilson.
8.00 LISTENERS' CHOICE.
Concert Music.
8.30 WORK AND WORSHIP.
A programme of Carols and Christmas songs by Eltham College School for Missionaries' sons.
8.45 PLAIN ENGLISH — REPORT WRITING.
3: "What First?" The third discussion between Petty Officer Bernard Houghton, R.N., and an English teacher deals with the order of a Report of material.
9.00 THE NEWS
9.10 Interlude
9.15 ANDY MACPHERSON
Organ
9.30 WE BEG TO DIFFER.
A Symposium of Topics of General Interest, with Kay Pentney.
10.00 Big Ben RADIO NEWSREEL
10.15 LIGHT MUSIC
Programme will be interrupted for a relay on the King from Sandringham of Kempton Park.
11.05 ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL
A one-act play on one of the day's matches.
12.00 THE NEWS.
12.10 Interlude

THURSDAY, DEC. 27

6.45 p.m. SPORTS ROUND-UP.
7.00 THE NEWS
7.10 NEWS ANALYSIS
7.15 PROGRAMME PARADE
7.20 FROM THE EDITORIALS
7.30 SPORTS DIARY
7.45 SPORTING RECORD
8.00 LAND AND LIVESTOCK
A rural magazine
8.15 JANYS HOLME (soprano)
'WHAT PRICE—MEAT!'
Third of five talks in which Bernard Hollowood will try to explain the cause of the shortage, the prices and the chances of prices falling
9.00 THE NEWS
9.10 HOME NEWS FROM BRITAIN
9.15 BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Conducted by Sir Adrian Boult.
Symphony No. 2 in D Brahms
10.00 Big Ben RADIO NEWSREEL
10.15 VERA LYNN SINGS
10.45 SERIOUS ARGUMENT
A topical discussion by a team of authoritative speakers. Speakers: Reginald Maudling, Douglas Jay, and Dingle Foot (chairman)
11.15 PROGRAMME PARADE
11.30 MUSICA BRITANNICA
A National Collection of Music: A series of thirteen special programmes; No. 13 Early English Carols; Edited by John E. Stevens
12.00 THE NEWS.
12.10 NEWS ANALYSIS.

FRIDAY, DEC. 28

6.45 p.m. SPORTS ROUND-UP.
7.00 THE NEWS.
7.10 NEWS ANALYSIS.
7.15 PROGRAMME PARADE.
7.20 FROM THE EDITORIALS
7.30 Jack Buchanan, Zena Dare, Phyllis Dare, Olive Gilbert, and Vanessa Lee in 'KING'S RHAPSODY.'
Book and music by Ivor Novello; Lyrics by Christopher Hassall; Radio adaptation by David Climie; Nikki —Jack Buchanan; Queen Elena — Zena Dare; Marta—Phyllis Dare; Countess Vera—Olive Gilbert; Christiane Vanessa Lee; Also in the cast: Dennis Martin, Robert Andrews, Pamela Harrington, Wendy Warren, Gordon Stephenson, Victor Bogetti, Michael Anthony, Jacqueline le Geyt, and Anne Pinder; The George Mitchell Choir; The Orchestra conducted by Harry Acres; Production by Tom Ronald.
9.00 THE NEWS.
9.10 HOME NEWS FROM BRITAIN.
9.15 MONIA LITER QUARTET.
9.30 BOOKS TO READ.
9.45 'AS I KNEW HIM; ALFRED, LORD TENNYSON.'
By Sir Charles Tennyson.
10.00 Big Ben. RADIO NEWSREEL.
10.15 VARIETY CHRISTMAS PARTY FROM A HOLIDAY HOTEL.
In the Ballroom listeners will meet Billy Cotton and his Band, Ted Ray and Kitty Bluett, Peter Brough and Archie Andrews, Richard Murdoch and Kenneth Horne, and Peter Sellers; P.C. 49 and Joan Carr will be spending their honeymoon there; Produced by Leslie Bridgmont.
11.15 PROGRAMME PARADE.
11.30 LISTENERS' CHOICE.
Light Music.
12.00 THE NEWS.
12.10 NEWS ANALYSIS.

Today

12.30 p.m. PROGRAMME SUMMARY
12.32 EDWARD GERMAN'S COUNTRY DANCES PLAYED BY THE NEW SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA.
12.45 MELODY TIME
1.15 NEWS, WEATHER REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.
1.30 POPULAR ORCHESTRAL SELECTIONS.
FORCES' PROGRAMME.
2.00 STUDIO: FORCES' CHOICE Presented by Dennis Webb.
2.30 "THE MAN IN BLACK." Famous Stories of Mystery and Terror.
"Our Feathered Friends" by Philip Macdonald, and "Thus I Refute Beelzy" by John Collier.
3.00 STUDIO: "HOSPITAL REQUESTS." Presented by Linda.
4.00 "SOUTHERN FANTASY."
4.30 AMBROSE AND HIS ORCHESTRA WITH ANNE SHELTON (VOCAL).
4.45 SOCCER FOOTBALL AT SOOKOONPOO. Army v Kwong Wah.
5.15 RAWICZ AND LANDAUER ON TWO PIANOS.
5.30 "RAY'S A LAUGH." A Variety Programme with Ted Ray, Kitty Bluett, and Fred Yule.
Stanley Black and the BBC Dance Orchestra.
6.00 PROGRAMME SUMMARY.
6.02 STUDIO: UNIT REQUESTS. Presented by Linda.
Calling 24 Field Engineering Regt.
7.00 TIME SIGNAL, WORLD NEWS AND NEWS ANALYSIS (LONDON RELAY).
7.15 A SHORT RECITAL BY HERBERT E. GROH (TENOR) AND ERNA SACK (SOPRANO).
7.30 VARIETY BANDBOX.
7.59 WEATHER REPORT.
8.00 LONDON PALLADIUM ORCHESTRA.
8.30 LONDON STUDIO MELODIES. Eric Robinson and His Orchestra with the Keynotes.
9.00 THE COUNTRY HOUSE. The Novel by John Galsworthy.

Sunday

10.00 a.m. PROGRAMME SUMMARY
10.02 SATURDAY'S SPORTS RESULTS
10.05 MORNING MELODY With Mantovani and His Orchestra
10.30 RELAY OF THE CELEBRATION OF MASS FROM ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH Preacher, the Rev. Father J. Garland, SJ.
11.15 LONDON STUDIO CONCERTS The BBC Northern Orchestra conducted by Denis Wright.
11.45 POPULAR ORCHESTRAL SELECTIONS.
12.15 p.m. STUDIO: "SPORTS TIME." Bill Phillips.
12.30 PROGRAMME SUMMARY.
12.32 THE EATON GIRLS' CHOIR Conducted by Arthur F. Davies, with Orch. conducted by George Melachrino.
12.45 "OFF THE RECORD"—RECENT RELEASES
1.15 NEWS, WEATHER REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.
1.30 AFTERNOON CONCERT. FORCES PROGRAMMES.
2.00 "TAKE IT FROM HERE" A Variety Programme with Joy Nichols, Dick Bentley and Jimmy Edwards.
The BBC Revue Orchestra, conducted by Robert Busby.
2.30 STUDIO: JAZZ HALF HOUR Presented by Robin Day.
3.00 STUDIO: HOSPITAL REQUESTS. Presented by Pauline Spence
4.00 "NO OTHER TIGER." The Novel by A. E. W. Mason. Adapted as a Serial in six Episodes by Norman Edwards. Episode 4 "Comme Makes a Promise."
4.30 BBC BANDSTAND. Band of the Welsh Guards, conducted by Lt. F. L. Statham
5.00 STUDIO: "HOME REQUESTS." Presented by Jean.
6.00 PROGRAMME SUMMARY.
6.02 LIGHT MUSIC. (Continuous).
6.30 STUDIO: SERVICES EVENSONG. Conducted by the Rev. D. M. Rowlands, RAF
7.00 TIME SIGNAL, WORLD NEWS AND NEWS ANALYSIS (LONDON RELAY).
7.15 ROBERT BEATTY IN THE LADY ON THE SCREEN. By Lester Powell.
Episode 7 "with the Brakes off."

Monday

7.00 a.m. OPENING THEME
7.05 NEWS HEADLINES
7.10 BAND OF H.M. COLDSTREAM GUARDS.
Here Comes the Band; Marche Militaire; Fame and Glory; Grand March, Aida; Marche Orientale; Homeland.
8.00 NEWS AND WEATHER REPORT
8.10 LIGHT MUSIC
9.00 CLOSE DOWN
1.30 p.m. PROGRAMME SUMMARY
12.32 THE SMITH-RHYTHM ORGANIST WITH ORCHESTRAL ACCOMPANIMENT
12.45 PETER YORKE AND HIS CONCERT ORCHESTRA—WITH STEVE CONWAY (VOCAL)
1.15 NEWS, WEATHER REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
1.30 MUSIC FOR YOU
2.00 CLOSE DOWN
4.00 PROGRAMME SUMMARY
4.02 STUDIO: CHILDREN'S HALF HOUR
Presented by Elizabeth Ann
5.00 CHRISTMAS IN CANADA CBC Orchestra and Choir conducted by Louis Applebaum (BBCWS)
5.30 TIME SIGNAL, WORLD NEWS (LONDON RELAY)
CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO FAR EAST LAND FORCES FROM GENERAL SIR CHARLES KEIGHTLEY, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, FAR EAST LAND FORCES
A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS EVE ROUND-UP
ARTIST OF THE WEEK
GERALD MOORE (PIANO)
11.00 RADIO NEWSREEL (RECORDED RELAY)
11.15 WEATHER REPORT
11.30 CLOSE DOWN

Tuesday

7.00 a.m. OPENING THEME
7.05 NEWS HEADLINES
7.10 LIGHT MUSIC
8.00 NEWS AND WEATHER REPORT.
8.10 LIGHT MUSIC
9.00 CLOSE DOWN
12.15 p.m. BBC WORLD-WIDE EXCHANGE PROGRAMME
"THE GIFTS OF CHRISTMAS"
A world-wide link-up with the Commonwealth, the Far East, the United States of America, Europe and the United Kingdom. Introduced by John Gaisford. Produced by Laurence Gilliam.
1.00 CHRISTMAS MESSAGE BY HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE VI
1.15 Recital by CYRIL SMITH and PHYLLIS SELLICK (two pianos)
1.45 CHRISTMAS TALK.
By the Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral, London (the Very Rev. W. R. Matthews, D.D.)
2.00 THE NEWS.
2.10 'UNUSUAL TALES.'
By H. G. Wells: 'The New Accelerator'; Bristow—Preston Lockwood; Gibberne—Godfrey Kenton; Wallaby—Bryan Powley; Clara—Sarah Leigh; Other parts played by Duncan McIntyre, Susan Richards, and Ronald Sidney: 'The Stolen Bacillus': The Bacteriologist—Arthur Ridley; Minnie—Gladys Spencer; Martha—Denise Bryer; The Anarchist—Preston Lockwood; Other parts played by Harry Hutchinson, Duncan McIntyre, and Ronald Sidney. The plays adapted by Felix Felton and produced by Martyn C. Webster.
3.00 BOXING DAY
6.45 p.m. SPORTS ROUND-UP
7.00 THE NEWS.
7.10 PROGRAMME PARADE.
7.15 FRANKIE HOWERD spends his Christmas with the Forces Overseas
By Sir Charles Tennyson.
10.00 Big Ben. RADIO NEWSREEL.
10.15 VARIETY CHRISTMAS PARTY FROM A HOLIDAY HOTEL.
In the Ballroom listeners will meet Billy Cotton and his Band, Ted Ray and Kitty Bluett, Peter Brough and Archie Andrews, Richard Murdoch and Kenneth Horne, and Peter Sellers; P.C. 49 and Joan Carr will be spending their honeymoon there; Produced by Leslie Bridgmont.
11.15 PROGRAMME PARADE.
11.30 LISTENERS' CHOICE.
Light Music.
12.00 THE NEWS.
12.10 NEWS ANALYSIS.

Wednesday

8.00 a.m. PROGRAMME SUMMARY.
8.02 "MORNING MELODY"—LIGHT VARIETY.
9.00 LONDON PALLADIUM ORCHESTRA. (Conducted by Richard Crean).
9.30 LIGHT INSTRUMENTAL PROGRAMME.
10.00 BRITISH CONCERT HALL. The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Sir Thomas Beecham.
11.00 VOCAL GEMS FROM "CAROUSEL". (Rodgers-Hammerstein).
11.15 BAND OF THE ROYAL AIR FORCE.
11.30 RE-BROADCAST OF THE CHRISTMAS MESSAGE OF HIS MAJESTY THE KING.
11.45 THE MELACHRINO ORCHESTRA.
12.00 FAVOURITES IN VARIETY WITH TEDDY JOHNSON (VOCAL).
12.30 PROGRAMME SUMMARY.
12.32 ENGLISH FOLK SONGS—SUITE. (Vaughan Williams — Arr. Jacob).
12.45 "FROM THE FILMS". Songs From Irving Berlin's "Blue Skies."
1.15 NEWS, WEATHER REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.
1.30 LONDON STUDIO CONCERTS. Bournemouth Municipal orchestra conducted by Rudolph Schwarz.
Overture of an Italian Comedy.
2.00 VARIETY BANDBOX. From the Camberwell Palace, London.
Primo Scala and his accordion Band—Douglas Cardew Robinson, Peter Sellers, Peggy Desmond, Dick Bentley, Billy Tennent and his Orchestra; Compere: Philip Slessor.
2.30 'SOUTHERN FANTASY". No Taboliero de Bahiana (Barbecue Candido (Filiberto Andre Kostelanetz and His Orchestra Lena Horne Bocero (Xavier Cugat) Xavier Cugat and His Waldorf Astoria Orchestra Dusk Tango (Rojo) Spain (Cugat) Xavier Cugat and His Orchestra Aragonaise (Stahn) Elyane Celis Orchestra sous La dit de Marcel Carlven, Gypsy Tango (Sacasati arr. Cugat) Xavier Cugat and his Orchestra La Rumba De Mes Reyes Rumba (Marcugat) Xavier Cugat and His Orchestra, Carnaval Viennoise Vals Mazen Debrae Elyane Celis Orchestra My Sombrero (Cugat) Andre Kostelanetz and his Orchestra

Thursday

7.00 a.m. OPENING THEME
7.05 NEWS HEADLINES
7.10 LIGHT MUSIC
8.00 NEWS AND WEATHER REPORT.
8.10 LIGHT MUSIC
9.00 CLOSE DOWN
9.00 p.m. PROGRAMME SUMMARY
9.02 LONDON STUDIO MELODIES Eric Robinson and his orchestra with Eric Whitley and Maureen Springer
Ragtime Cowboy Joe Take me back to my bonds and saddle Maybe it's because I'm a Londoner, Unless, Stars in your eyes, Jingle, Jingle, Jingle, Big Ben.
6.30 ORCHESTRA OF THE WEEK The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra Conducted by Sir Thomas Beecham.
Overture Le Carnaval, Op. 21 (Berlioz), Scherzo (From "Amaryllis" Suite) (Handel arr. Beecham), The garden of Fand (Bax)
7.00 TIME SIGNAL, WORLD NEWS (LONDON RELAY).
7.15 FRANKIE HOWERD SPENDS HIS CHRISTMAS WITH THE FORCES OVERSEAS (LONDON RELAY)
7.59 WEATHER REPORT
8.00 "PEARL DREAM DANCES". (Coleridge-Taylor) Played by the London Palladium Orchestra. Conducted by Clifford Greenwood.
Demoiselle Chic—Intermezzo (Percy Fletcher)
8.30 STUDIO "LUCKY DIP" Variety Requests.
Presented by Pauline Spence.
9.10 STUDIO: PIANO RECITAL BY BERNARD LEUNG.
9.30 SONGS OF THE BRITISH ISLES
Marion Davies (Soprano) John Tainsh (Tenor) Michael Cole (Baritone), BBC Opera Chorus and Orchestra, conducted by Stanford Robinson.
10.30 MUSIC FOR DANCING. With Oscar Rabin and his Band.
That's plenty Quickstep (Pollack) Have I Told you Lately that I love you Slow Foxtrot (Wiseman) Marion Davies and Marjorie Daw (Vocal) She wore a yellow ribbon, Quickstep (Parker) The David Ede Quartette with Marion Davis and Dennis Hale (Vocal) Mona Lisa Slow Foxtrot (Evans) Dennis Hale (Vocal) Someday my heart will awake, Waltz (Novello), Sam's song, Foxtrot (Spadling) Dennis Hale & David Ede (Vocal); Down Argentina Way, Foxtrot (Gordon) Vocal Chorus by Ken Beaumont. Only passing clouds, Foxtrot (Cassen)—Diane (Vocal); Leave us leap, Quick-step (Finckel); Mighty Lak a Rose—Waltz (Nevin).
11.00 RADIO NEWSREEL (RECORDED RELAY).
11.15 GOODNIGHT MUSIC.
La Campanella (Busoni) — Isador Goodman (Piano); Fantaisie—Valse (Glinka) — The Philharmonia Orchestra, conducted by Nicolai Malko
11.29 WEATHER REPORT.
GOD SAVE THE KING.
11.30 CLOSE DOWN.

Friday

7.00 a.m. OPENING THEME.
7.05 NEWS HEADLINES.
7.10 LIGHT MUSIC.
8.00 NEWS AND WEATHER REPORT.
8.10 LIGHT MUSIC.
9.00 CLOSE DOWN.
12.15 p.m. BBC WORLD-WIDE EXCHANGE PROGRAMME "THE GIFTS OF CHRISTMAS"
A world-wide link-up with the Commonwealth, the Far East, the United States of America, Europe and the United Kingdom. Introduced by John Gaisford. Produced by Laurence Gilliam.
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1.15 Recital by CYRIL SMITH and PHYLLIS SELLICK (two pianos)
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2.10 'UNUSUAL TALES.'
By H. G. Wells: 'The New Accelerator'; Bristow—Preston Lockwood; Gibberne—Godfrey Kenton; Wallaby—Bryan Powley; Clara—Sarah Leigh; Other parts played by Duncan McIntyre, Susan Richards, and Ronald Sidney: 'The Stolen Bacillus': The Bacteriologist—Arthur Ridley; Minnie—Gladys Spencer; Martha—Denise Bryer; The Anarchist—Preston Lockwood; Other parts played by Harry Hutchinson, Duncan McIntyre, and Ronald Sidney. The plays adapted by Felix Felton and produced by Martyn C. Webster.
3.00 BOXING DAY
6.45 p.m. SPORTS ROUND-UP.
7.00 THE NEWS.
7.10 PROGRAMME PARADE.
7.15 FRANKIE HOWERD spends his Christmas with the Forces Overseas
By Sir Charles Tennyson.
10.00 Big Ben. RADIO NEWSREEL.
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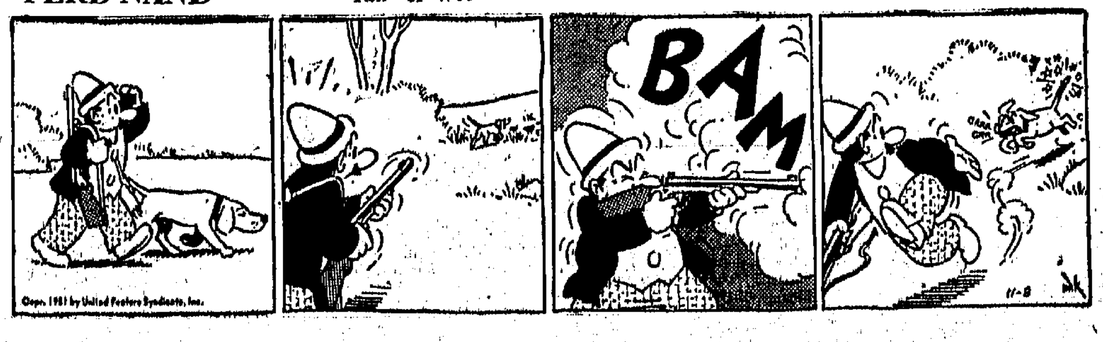
11.15 PROGRAMME PARADE.
11.30 LISTENERS' CHOICE.
Light Music.
12.00 THE NEWS.
12.10 NEWS ANALYSIS.

FERD'NAND

"Tail" of Woe

By Mik



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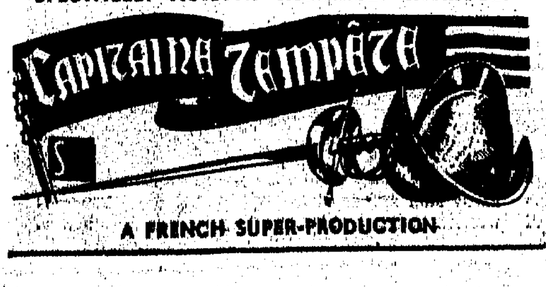

A FRENCH SUPER-PRODUCTION

MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN — By Lee Falk and Phil Davis

THE TWO ALICES

Walt Disney's Alice and her model, Kathryn Beaumont, and the Cheshire Cat and his model, Sterling Holloway. Disney always draws his animals from human models, the simple reason being that it's impossible to summon a grin from the most co-operative cat in the world.

It is uncertain whether the simultaneous showing of two versions of the nursery's greatest "fairy" story in Hongkong was contrived, or just a happy chain. Whichever it was, one should not miss the opportunity of seeing both. If that is impossible, yet you want to see Lewis Carroll's story come to life, don't make the mistake of seeing that which has had the biggest fanfare. Disney's "Alice in Wonderland."

The [illegible] happy adventure [illegible] extraordinary [illegible] Carroll [illegible] France by Disney [illegible] produced Disney [illegible] Lou Bunin [illegible] cleverly puppet [illegible] Wonderland, it was [illegible] that country in 1949 and although it had reached America in time for the effort [illegible] Disney's lawyers, only [illegible] screen in Britain have [illegible] the film. The contrast [illegible] between the "treatment and the [illegible] plush with which [illegible] Disney version was launched is almost as great as [illegible] between the two films.

Disney has missed the point. That, I think, accounts for all his mistakes. With the combination of sixteen showmen, he has gone in for "entertainment" value" in a sometimes quite irrelevant way.

TECHNICAL VIRTUOSITY

You get the idea that he picked on the story to demonstrate his technical virtuosity in such things as making flowers sing, an interlude not invented by Lewis Carroll, though quite charming in itself.

One may interpret a story in many different ways when "translating" it from type to talk and action, without quibbling, nor leaving a few things out, inasmuch as it suits one's conception of the story and provided that the point is not lost.

By depriving his Alice and all real world of life, Disney lost the opportunity of contrast as well as the point which was, after all, to show a very real and Victorian little girl's reaction to very strange, but not to her as a child, incredible adventures.

This is where the Bower-Bunin version succeeds so well. You are introduced to the real historical world—Charles Dodgson, or to use his pseudonym, Lewis Carroll's world—where you see Queen Victoria (Pamela Brown) visiting Christchurch College, and the Dean's three little daughters, with Victorian precaution, are kept in their rooms, until the young Don, Dodgson, lets them out and escapes the formality himself by rowing them down the river, telling his story.

By a miracle of photography, Carol Marsh as Alice goes through Wonderland herself, acting flawlessly. The puppets are exceptional—for puppets.

DISNEY'S ANIMALS

How perfect it would have been though, if this Wonderland were peopled with Disney's animals, which would have to have been far more specifically drawn, to imitate the characteristics of the Victorians in Dodgson's world, rather than the trite Disneyisms which libelled the Walrus Commander R.N. (retd.) They were important and good, but I am not of the school of thought which considers that Bunin's puppets stole the show. There are those who do.

Three items in the Disney film were really good. One was the rather frightening coily caterpillar, a very alive creature, another the stripy Cheshire cat with his inscrutable and self-appearing grin, and then the fascinating scene with gullible frilly little oysters, whose last moments one was touchingly spared. It is a pity about the rest. The big difference is that Disney's is complete fantasy, while Bower's is a contrast; the reactions of a *real* Victorian child to fantasy.

—SUE DAWSON.

Designed To Carry One Away . . . .

"The Tales of Hoffmann" is a film designed to carry one away. Some will call it loud and overpowering, some will describe its colours as extravagant, others will deplore its abundance of good things which, like an overloaded feast, produce dyspepsia in the end but none will deny that it provides an experience of a lifetime.

It does this because it is an experimentation of so many branches of entertainment that it establishes an entertainment of its own. It gives to the opera the greatest scope it has ever had and—unfolding a breathlessly magnificent vista of song and romance do the ballet an enchanting new region for subsequent exploitation, and to the films a new standard, the success of which is the evolution upwards of every level known to motion pictures till now.

The classic, the virtuous, the beautiful and the modern are given their separate patterns but scissors of perfection trim them to suit the coat. It is the result, only too obvious, of cinematic genius gone rambling in enchanted woods. The singing is impressive, the dancing excellent and the orchestral music, especially the Barcarolle sequence, of a quality which will not soon be surpassed.

ORIGINAL AND DARING

But the film will be remembered in the years to come mainly for its originality and daring, for the many wonderful scenes of astonishing ingenuity and loveliness, for the rich and spectacular effects, for the bewitching tricks which the camera plays on the eye, delighting the connoisseur and the commoner alike, like old wine cast into pitchers of marble and cement.

Miss Moira Shearer's and Miss Ludmilla Tcherina's dancing are of course highspots of the film. They are placed in the forefront of a continuous succession of gorgeous sets, which bring out the finest in ballet in much the same way accentuation of ingredients bring out the best in food. Sir Thomas Beecham's rendition of the Offenbach score gives the final gild to a bower of lilies, and compels the audience to rivet its eyes on the screen.

Miss Shearer dances the prologue as Stella in the role of a dragonfly. She appears again soon after in the tale of Olympia, a doll, which Leonide Massine, as Coppelius, is trying to pass off as his daughter to Hoffmann.

Miss Tcherina, almost as famous a dancer as Miss Shearer, appears as Giulietta, a beautiful Venetian courtesan who enslaves Hoffmann.

Miss Ann Ayers dances the third important part, as Antonia, who dies of consumption in a lonely Greek island.

SETTING TO SETTING

To record all this the camera flits from setting to setting, giving one feeling glimpses of hundreds of yards of satin curtains, hundreds of yards of draperies, countless objects which spring to life as effortlessly as the emergence of sun after rain, gilded columns, marble floors, dazzling interiors, and Venice in twilight.

A preview audience last week was spellbound by the film. It was felt at the end that a litany of superlatives would not be amiss, hence this review. It is a great artistic effort, truly remarkable, and its appeal should be international.

There are flaws, of course, for the singers and the dancers often do not synchronize their roles, and no opera in the world has the happy fortune of containing nothing but haunting melodies from beginning to end; here and there are always to be found parts likely to drag. They do drag in Hoffmann, too, but the burden is something one delights to carry.

—A.D.C.

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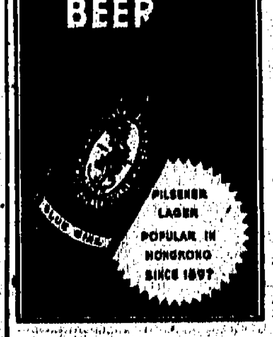

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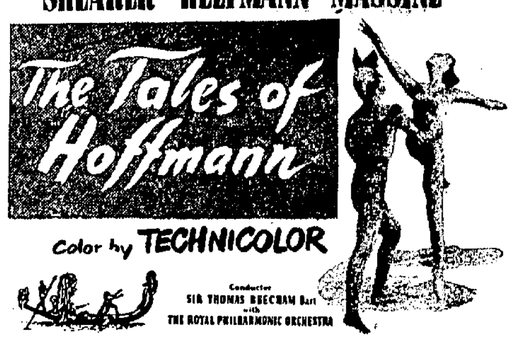

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SANTA GOES WESTERN

Miss Wild West of 1950 might be name of this youngster, who places toy bronco in corral of her ranch play yard. This seems to have replaced the doll's house of yesteryear, when all little girls were made of "sugar and spice and everything nice."

SANTA has traded in Dasher, Dancer, Prancer and Vixen this year for a string of ponies named "Trigger," "Champion," "Silver" and "Topper."

Come Christmas Eve, the jolly old man will arrive with a 10-gallon hat perched on his snow-white hair. In his 1951 pack will be the greatest collection of western toys he's ever carried.

They're not all for Johnny, either. An equal number will be tagged for his little sisters.

The girls are demanding toy horses in all sizes and colours. Guns must be as large as those brother gets. Dolls will come straight from the golden west. If the junior miss desires, she can change into an Indian maiden.

Fancy shirts and cowgirl skirts, rough-riding bikes, covered wagons, campfire equipment and western games —they'll be there for little "Miss Buckeroo."

THERE'S AN OUTLAW in the distance, so our heroine draws her trusty six-shooter—standard equipment for every girl who "goes west"—before venturing within rocking horse range. Her mount champs at the bit, eager to dash ahead in this stirring prairie chase.

DOLLS are still a must on almost every little girl's Christmas list. This year, they are made to follow the new trend, dressed in miniature cowgirl costume. Many cowboy dolls are made to resemble favourite characters.

IT'S EVENING on the range. The herd is bedded down and coyotes are howling in the distance as our cowgirls gather around their campfire. Food must be cooked and guns must be cleaned. And, of course, there's always one hand to provide music and sing ballads.

BANG! BANG! BANG! And another redskin was supposed to bite the dust. But this warrior was made of hardy stuff and lived to play another day. Numerous western gadgets will make bicycles resemble horses.

"We've abominable robins, abominable Santa Clauses at abominable prices—but no snowmen."

London Express Service

Red Agents Watch Chinese Students In Great Britain

(CUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

LONDON.

THE shooting of a Chinese laundryman by Communist agents in New York has put Chinese students in this country on their guard against several of their colleagues who are known to be in the employ of the Peking Government.

But despite all the efforts of the British authorities and of several organisations set up to help the Chinese people over here, reports are continually coming in of students who have been intimidated by Communist agents.

So far there have been few cases of violence, but the Communists are known to have ordered [illegible] to "report" on their colleagues or to Peking" will threats of retaliation against students' families in China.

Some of the students seem to have taken the line of "peaceful resistance and transferred their allegiance to the Communist Party, but remain defiant.

Families in China who receive money from students in this country have been visited by Communist agents. One such family wrote to a student asking him not to send any more money. They told that most of it was confiscated by the Communists. Later, when the remittances topped, the Communists visited the family again and asked them why no further money had been sent.

Another family wrote to their two sons, who were due to return to China, telling them not to leave Britain as their names had been sent to Peking by Red agents. They were now on the Communist blacklist.

A recent Communist-inspired collection [illegible] of Chinese "volunteers" in Korea brought other case of intimidation to light. Chinese students who refused to contribute were warned [illegible] their family's safety. Most of them paid up.

★

Communist agents appear to have been instructed by Peking to investigate the source of Chinese students' funds. Many of the students are here on Nationalist Government scholarships, but are still receiving funds from an undisclosed source."

This apparent leak is worrying the Communists, who have doubts about the faithfulness of their own followers in China. Somehow money is being smuggled out of China and sent to [illegible] in this country.

There are, however, [illegible] source from which Chinese students in Britain can obtain money for living expenses. Many of them have overseas connections in Hongkong or Singapore, and others are given help by the University of China Committee, which holds the purse-strings of the Boxer Indemnity Fund.

Many of the known Communist agents here are under close watch, and their identity has been notified to student groups and to the police. But it is proving difficult to curb their activities, especially as some of them have infiltrated into the top posts in the Chinese Students Union.

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Yuletide Menus this year!

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Make one of the Dairy Farm Restaurants your Holiday Headquarters during the Festive Season!

When are you BRIGHTEST?

by JOSEPH GARRITY

THOUGH there is a natural slowing down process as we grow older, there is no corresponding decline either in the power of the brain or general ability.

A group of Cambridge scientists experimenting at the Cambridge Psychological Laboratory on how age affects efficiency has found that out.

Nine elaborate experiments in manipulatory and mental skill were conducted, using hundreds of volunteers—naval ratings, Polish ex-soldiers, professional men, craftsmen—as "guinea pigs."

LATE 20's
The slowing down process begins

OVER 35's
High intelligence, but 'too much comment'

OVER 40's
More thorough, accurate than youngsters

THE 50's
Complete recovery, then slow decline

'HOOP-LA' TEST

Dr A. T. Welford, organiser of the research team, describes these experiments in a report "Skill and Age."

Many mechanical devices, some resembling "hoop-la" stalls and pin-tables tested the men for accuracy, speed, judgment, deduction, inspection, and learning abilities.

One of the main conclusions was that the slowing down process normally starts about the late 20's, and is followed by a recovery—nearly complete—in the 50's. The subsequent slow decline continues gradually until well after 65.

Analysis made it clear that the over 40's, though slower, are far more thorough and accurate than the youngsters.

Their efficiency in most jobs where speed is not an essential factor is generally substantially higher than the under-30's.

In a complex skill test requiring fine judgment, the older subjects, by adopting a slower, planning technique, scored many more marks for accuracy.

Champion of this test was a man of 60 whose 342 successes were 40 percent better than the highest score of the under-30's.

In a target-throwing accuracy test the over-40's won again by keener concentration.

When tracing figures in an accuracy-plus-speed test, the youngsters were 40 percent faster than their rivals. But they were clearly outclassed in accuracy.

As electrical fault-finders the over-40's proved equally accurate, though slower, in deduction. On inspection tests they had difficulty absorbing instructions, were slow-starters, but attained equality as their confidence grew.

It was in the mental skill tests that the fixations of long experience proved a handicap.

ILLOGICAL REPLIES

Instead of drawing logical conclusions as instructed the over-35's tended to introduce comment. Yet their highly intelligent, though illogical, replies were "better" than those demanded by the instructions.

This tendency to comment might be due, say the scientists, to the obtrusion of "firmer, better constructed opinions and greater information that experience brings."

The youngsters proved far superior learners. The main difficulty of the older people often lay in unlearning a sequence which contained a number of errors.

In his conclusions Dr Welford says the evidence indicates that older people are more careful and suitable for operations demanding high degrees of accuracy.

The practice of transferring older people from heavy to lighter work needed reviewing.

For it has been found that older people can be more adversely affected by continuous rapid motion in many light operations than by moderately heavy work.

Improvements of machine design to benefit older people would also lessen the strain for younger workers and increase productivity all round.

Commenting on the experiments, Sir Frederic Bartlett, director of the Cambridge laboratory, says: "There is still far too great a tendency to think of enhanced productivity as a problem of sport."

But the increasing needs of humanity can be met "only if all fit people, from youth to age, play their parts, and only if those parts are planned in accordance with the natural flowering and growth throughout life of human abilities."

Evidently the facts revealed by the tests on the over-40's are unknown to most employers.

Otherwise, why does industry—with 500,000 jobs waiting to be filled—ignore the skill and experience of 150,000 jobless middle-aged and a vaster proportion of our 4,000,000 pensioners?

THE LEGEND

Despite a campaign by the Labour Ministry, the employers' federations, and the trades unions, the legend of "too-old-at-40" still persists.

In principle the employers agree that it is wrong to waste this valuable force. In practice they shelter behind a battery of excuses for failing to exploit it.

They emphasise the difficulties of fitting the over-40's into seniority rotas and superannuation schemes, of paying higher salaries for men who may not prove adaptable.

But the labour experts shake their heads. There is still, they say, a conviction that workers over 40 are less able to stand the strain of modern industrial techniques.

Mottoes For Your Christmas Cracker

"HOW CLEVER OF YOU TO THINK OF IT!"

HE has ample scope to err
In the choice of a gift from him to her.
She can more easily sink then swim
In the return from her to him.
It's not the present that counts, but the thought,
—Of what the money could have bought.

"NOT QUITE SO ROUGH, DEAR"

The heart lights up, at first, to see
The little ones at their party tea.
But the domestic havoc they leave in their tracks is
Like the work of maniacs with axes.

"BE GONE DULL CARE—BUT NOT TOO FAR"

How pleasant it is to joke and laugh
At the party for the staff.
"Fancy her in—Fancy that!
Why there's the boss in a paper hat!"
But, remember to moderate your laughter,
For there will be many mornings after.

"ABOVE PROOF—BELOW PAR"

The proof of the pudding is in the eating:
The proof of the egg is in the breaking:
The proof of the lovers is in the meeting
The proof of the drink—in the head that is aching.

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till 2 a m

BOXING DAY —
December 26th
SPECIAL DINNER DANCE

NEW YEAR'S EVE —
December 31st
GALA DINNER DANCE
till 2 a m

NEW YEAR'S DAY —
January 1st, 1952
USUAL DINNER DANCE

PENINSULA HOTEL

XMAS EVE—December 24th
GALA DINNER DANCE
till 2 a m

NEW YEAR'S EVE —
December 31st
GALA DINNER DANCE
till 2 a m

NEW YEAR'S DAY —
January 1st, 1952
DINNER with Classical Music

REPULSE BAY HOTEL

XMAS EVE -December 24th
GALA DINNER DANCE
till 2 a m

XMAS DAY—December 25th
SPECIAL TEA DANCE
4.30 - 6.30 p m

NEW YEAR'S EVE —
December 31st
GALA DINNER DANCE
till 2 a m

NEW YEAR'S DAY —
January 1st, 1952
SPECIAL TEA DANCE
4.30 - 6.30 p m

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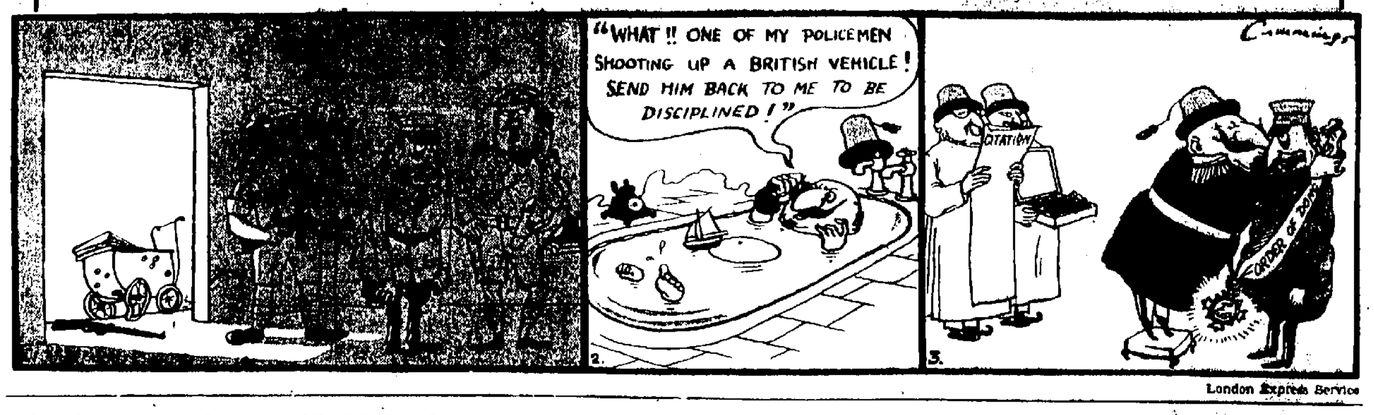
THE DING OF DONG—A DEVIL WHEN HE'S ROUSED



London Express Service

THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM IS STILL A MYSTERY

FOR more than a thousand years the most intensive investigation, by scientists, astronomers and historians alike, has not succeeded in solving satisfactorily and conclusively one of the greatest mysteries associated with Christmas.

Not even today is it possible to decide with any certainty the identity of the Star which guided the Wise Men to Bethlehem nearly 2,000 years ago.

As an astronomical phenomenon, the Star of Bethlehem is unique. It is equally singular as a tradition. Stars have been associated with other great happenings in world history, but never was there one quite like the star which lit the field where "shepherds watched their flocks by night."

Popular opinion has usually classed this herald of Christ's coming as a comet. And for a long time astronomers themselves leaned strongly towards the view that it was the same nebulous body as that seen in 1705 by Edmund Halley. He predicted that it would return every 65 to 75 years, and the accuracy of his forecast has been proved on several occasions. Halley's Comet was seen, for example, in 1835 and in 1910.

It was therefore, a relatively simple matter for the astronomers to calculate backwards in an attempt to show that this comet was visible in 1066, 1531, 1607, and 1682. Several of its appearances have coincided with historical events, and this fact has strengthened the tradition that this phenomenon is the one which ushered in the birth of the Saviour.

★

OTHER factors, however, complicate and upset this apparently straightforward theory. Though the comet certainly made an appearance some time near the beginning of the Christian era, close investigation of facts and dates fails to identify it as *the* Star of Bethlehem.

The most careful calculations do not enable a visit by Halley's Comet to be fixed as having occurred on a date within the arbitrary year of Christ's birth. Even still more conclusive is the fact that the exact path of the comet is known. It could not have been the Star of Bethlehem because the Wise Men came from the East.

The known path of Halley's Comet is such that this orb would have followed them, and not led them, if by some mischance in the celestial time-table it had appeared at the first Christmas.

Again, the Wise men travelled for several months, but the periodical appearances of the comet are of short duration.

What, then, was the Star?

There are several other possible but by no means conclusive explanations of the tradition. At one time the astronomers toyed with the notion of its having been a conjunction of two planets. A pair of planets, they argued, brought into line when viewed from the earth, might have been brilliant enough to be visible by day as well as by night. Especially might this be the case if one of them were Venus, the Evening Star, and the most brilliant planet in the Heavens.

As far back as the seventeenth century this theory was being investigated, though the planet Venus did not figure in the research. Johann Kelper, the famous German astronomer, calculated that at about the time of the Incarnation the planets Jupiter and Saturn appe red to have been in conjunction when seen from the earth. Could this dual appearance account for the Star of Bethlehem?

★

MODERN scientists, while agreeing that the joint planets would constitute a phenomenon likely to be regarded with awe, are unconvinced with the validity of Kelper's theory. Their calculations, carried out with far more accurate instruments than the German astronomer ever imagined possible show that Saturn and Jupiter, though much closer together than usual, did not appear exactly together at the date of Christ's birth. They were separated by several degrees as seen from this earth.

As to the possibility of *the* Star being a fixed star, and not a comet, science again gives an emphatic denial. Even if the possibility of such a star's flaring up to such brilliance is admitted, the time factor upsets any theory linking it with Christ's birth. It must be remembered that the light from even the nearest fixed star takes years to reach the earth. Outside the field of miracles, it is practically impossible for Science to admit the coincidence which is implied by classing the Star of Bethlehem as a fixed star. Its sudden expansion to abnormal brightness would have had to take place when the world was very young indeed.

★

SCIENCE has a much more satisfactory explanation for the "birth star" of Christ, and it is a theory which in no way refutes the biblical teaching that the Star was a divine symbol especially created for the occasion.

Astronomers nowadays strongly believe that it was a new star, brought into being by the clashing of two suns long gone cold. The impact of two similar bodies, travelling at a speed incomprehensible to the layman, would create a star with all the characteristics of the Star of Bethlehem.

It would have been an exceptionally brilliant spectacle; it would have remained visible long enough to have guided the three Wise Men on their journey; and it would later have burned itself out.

It tallies also with the biblical tradition of divine guidance, because the two whirling suns, careering through space, had to meet a specific part of the sky at a specific time. The chances of such a clash occurring at the time of Christ's birth, without Providential aid, it is argued, are too remote to merit consideration.

★

ENORMOUS brilliance would result from the impact, for the suns would meet so forcibly that they would become masses of molten metal and flaming gases. The splendour of a star created in this manner would be fully in keeping with the importance of the occasion.

The orb's streaming brilliance would show the Wise Men that no ordinary event was heralded.

This explanation fits in too, with the present belief that the Star of Bethlehem was not a temporary phenomenon, not a comet, planet or fixed star. It had never been seen before, and after its comparatively short life, it was never witnessed again. As the effects of the terrific impact declined, the star either burned out or became cool again.

Today's astronomers have not fully and conclusively catalogued this herald of the first Christmas. They are more agreed than ever before on its origin, but there are still some mysteries surrounding it.

★

DETAILED, reliable records of the Star are few. There is no biblical reference to its colour, and modern astronomers are able to obtain complete data about a heavenly body only when they have this knowledge.

But they have been able to state definitely that the Star of Bethlehem was not a meteorite, that it was an exceptional feature of the heavens, and that it cannot be accounted for by any of the known movements of the planets.

Meteorites, of course, are by no means uncommon, and their appearance has coincided with Christmas in quite recent years. One fell in Lincolnshire, England, during Christmas Week in 1921, and lit up the whole district of Holbeach with a blinding light. All biblical astronomical and historical data, however, indicate that the Star of Bethlehem was in quite a different category.

But, despite all their knowledge and facilities, modern scientists agree that only divine influence explains the Star's appearance at the date which has since come to be accepted as the most outstanding and significant in the history of the world.

To this extent, the Star of Bethlehem is a mystery still.

F.M.

SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS IN THE PETROL ERA

(Our Own Correspondent)

GRANDMAMMA probably received her first Christmas card about the year 1850. It was actually in 1846 that the originator of the Christmas card — Henry Cole — commissioned his friend and well-known artist, J. C. Horsley, to design him a special greetings card for a few close friends.

But, for a year or two, Society was not quite sure whether this practice was "elegant" or "ostentatious." Then Queen Victoria and Prince Albert gave the lead by ordering cards for the Royal Family's own use. Society hesitated no longer: Christmas cards by the thousands began to appear in the shops.

The Christmas tree's history goes too far back into antiquity to be precisely defined. Certainly, it is of Germanic origin. Some credit its introduction to an early missionary, St Boniface; others say that its originator was Martin Luther, and in 1608, a Strasbourg merchant wrote of seeing such a tree in a home in that city.

Undoubtedly, it was Prince Albert who introduced into Britain the custom of illuminating the tree with candles. It is exactly 100 years ago since the first Christmas trees were sold in New York, where, in 1851, a Catskills woodman, Mark Carr, hawked them from a pitch—rented for one silver dollar—at the corner of Greenwich and Vesey streets.

Another great change that came over country Christmases in grandmamma's young days was their sudden eruption into a blaze of festive light. This resulted from the arrival—in 1861—of the first oil cargo to reach Britain from America, and the subsequent advent of the paraffin lamp.

These lamps turned the stately homes of England into truly magnificent spectacles at Christmastide; the great Georgian mansions scintillated like fairy palaces as from their innumerable windows the soft radiance of the oil lamps streamed out.

Flattering

And on the night of the Christmas ball, when the ladies looked their loveliest in their gracious crinoline gowns, grandmamma found this new lighting most agreeable—flatteringly kind to her carefully-tended complexion and yet bright enough to pick out the highlights of her jewels and hair. She knew that she looked her best as granpapa led her to the floor for the Christmas minuet . . .

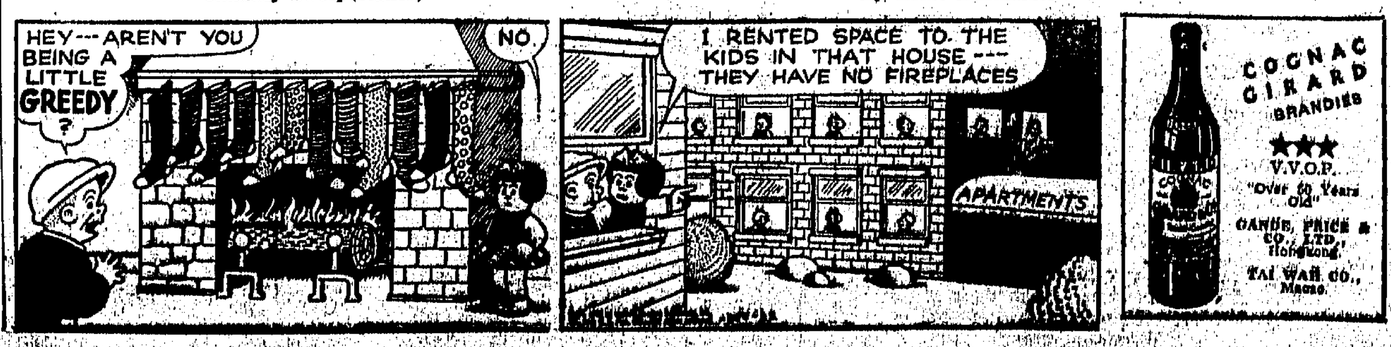
Grandpapa himself generally had one other important Christmas appointment—the Boxing Day meet of the hunt. Nor was this the only traditional Boxing Day sporting occasion. This day was also the date of countless Farmers' Shoots, when two or three farmers would 'pool' their coverts and invité twenty or more of their neighbours to help them flush the game. Then, at nightfall, both huntsmen and marksmen would relate their successes to the ladies before a roaring Yule log fire.

What of Britain's Christmas in 1951? True, many hunts that were famous in grandpapa's young days have long since been disbanded. Nor may modern farmers find time to spend all Boxing Day trudging their neighbours' land with a gun under their arm. The Yule log has largely been ousted by anthracite or central heating—and the stately homes of England have become noticeably fewer in number. And while dancing remains as popular as ever, much of the strict punctilio of ninety years ago is missing from the ball.

But beneath the veneer of change, the essential atmosphere of Christmas remains. The carol singers will be making their rounds and the church bells ringing out in joyous celebration just as they did when grandmamma was a girl. Stockings will hang from children's bedposts—and the mistletoe dangle from the light over the front porch. And if cars instead of carriages are speeding to family trysts, these trysts have become vastly easier to keep.

Although we are living in the Petrol rather than the Paraffin era—itself at one time such a novel experience for our grandparents—we have kept the spirit of Christmas intact.

NANCY Chimney Sweep(stakes) By Ernie Bushmiller



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EVE PERRICK finds a cartoon postscript for Prince Philip at his first professional prize fight

—A DISTINGUISHED AUDIENCE—AS MILLIONS OF PEOPLE IN AMERICA SEE IT...

IN the same week that the Duke of Edinburgh went to a prize-fight a supply of American comics arrived in London to show that cartoonist Hammond Fisher anticipated a royal visit to a boxing arena. Only Ham made the occasion rather more illustrious.

To watch Joe Palooka defend his title in London came the King, Winston Churchill, Lord Mountbatten, and Bing Crosby. Anyway, that's how it is in the comic strip which 30,000,000 Americans read every day.

Who *is* Joe Palooka? He is a cartoon character—"a broad-shouldered, clean-living, prize-fighter type" —who, because of Mr Fisher's habit of introducing actual people into his adventures, is used to rubbing shoulders with celebrities.

That is how he has become almost a real-life hero to his followers.

ALICE TOUCH

THE ATMOSPHERE at Harringay when the Duke went along wasn't quite as Mr Fisher might have imagined.

It was Philip's first attendance at professional boxing. It was mine too.

I was surprised to find the Alice in Wonderland touch where I had expected to step into pure Damon Runyon. But there was Mr Jack Solomons, rushing round and round the confusing corridor muttering to himself just like the White Rabbit, "I mustn't be late for the Duke.....I mustn't be late for the Duke."

Keeping up with him, asking awkward questions —and he was in no mood to answer—were the Solomons sycophants. "*I* don't know what his Royal Highness would like to eat".... then, true to his old trade, adding: "Anyway, I hope it's fish, but don't ask me—go and see the group-captain."

Group-Captain Wilson was wisely out of the way, behind a door mysteriously marked "Special Room," but which everyone knew was where the royal party would take refreshment.

Still, when the Duke did arrive, everything was just fine.

The boxing baron, his breath and temper recovered, a bland, smiling figure in a bright-blue tuxedo, led them to their front-row 15-guinea seats.

There they got an excellent view of the fighting, and were almost invisible to most of the 10,000 other cash customers.

"I can't see—which one is Philip?" asked a woman a few rows behind. Her husband peered forward, and reported back: "He's the one with the red carnation and the dinner-jacket."

She took a second look. "But everyone is wearing a red carnation and a dinner-jacket."

He did another reconnaissance job, and pointed out the most obvious difference between His Royal Highness and his nearest neighbours..... *"He's the one without the cigar."*

I WONDER...

I WOULD LOVE to know what went on backstage before the Cunard people put out their V.I.P. passenger list thus:—

"Sir Laurence and Lady Olivier and 49 members of their company, including Mr Wilfred Hyde-White."

EXOTIC EVENING

SOMEONE HAS TRIED very hard to revive that vanished feature of highly civilised society—the "salon."

Mrs Humphrey Howorth inaugurated the London Salon "for the purpose of bringing together members of London's cultural life."

But somehow or other the scene, instead of exuding the hoped-for air of elegant wit and brilliance, soon began to slide into the slapstick mood.

The salon-keeper did her best. She had arranged round one side of the room painter Frank Beresford, Sir Thomas Beecham's composer son Adrian, Oscar Kohlerstrom described as "a brain storm in philosophy and allied subjects, including dianetics," Squadron-Leader Tiratsoo, "researcher into radio activity on rocks and how much more," and Mr John Dove "softly cooing on the piano."

On the other side were sausage rolls and strawberry ices.

We were told we were in for an exotic evening. We were also advised that if we wished to approach any of the guests of honour, but were too shy to do so, we should contact a Red Hostess if our man was a scientist—a Green Hostess if we wished to talk to the artists.

This explained the presence of a group of women wearing badges marked "Art" or "Science" and eager smiles.

Yet conversation did not flow freely. So after Mr Tiratsoo had livened up the party by making impressive noises with a Geiger counter and a Cosmic Ray Detector, supper was announced.

And to those who looked as if they might not be staying until the end, the Master of Ceremonies, Mr Leslie Hughes, promised a treat in store—ghost stories and, "just for the thrill of it," a ghost-man, dressed in something extra specially spooky to throw a scare into the works.

CONFESSING...

MERLE OBERON'S preference in Christmas parties — "a family affair with friends taking the place of relatives"

shoemaker **Louis Juffe**, who specialises in men's height-raising shoes, revealing that most of his customers are not actors but Harley Street specialists and Australian corset expert **Aileen Gray**, safely back in Sydney, saying that most Englishwomen were "of the frankly fat type."

Griffiths Jones, explaining why he chooses to appear in Grand Guignol. "My face has been my downfall. All my life I have been haunted by the juvenile lead. Until now my headmaster's warning that I would never be able to get away from 'that pretty Botticelli face' was justified"....

Ann Davison, pioneer woman pilot, heroic survivor of the perilous sea trip she writes about in her book "Last Voyage" telling her publishers she couldn't take part in any autograph-signing stunts because she was scared....

And let's get this off my chest—I hate the man who thought up the advertising slogan: "Give everyone a Happy Christmas with a Blank alarm clock."

STREET SCENE

THE LARGEST MAN in the world emerging from a Charing Cross Road bookshop with a pile of manuals on boxing and wrestling under his enormous arm, playfully but painfully tapping the sales assistant on the chin, and turning out to be on a second and closer look .....**Primo Carnera**.

No, I am not one of those chaps who takes a delight in...

by DANIEL GEORGE

ONE of the mistakes that are often made is the mistake of writing, "One of the mistakes that *is* often made."

Put it round this way: "Of the mistakes that are often made this is one." You see, "mistakes," being plural, must be followed by "are."

The publisher who advertises: "One of the funniest books that has been written" should know better. He would see his error if he recast the sentence thus: "Of the books that *have* been written this is one of the funniest."

Similarly, the impatient reader who tells me that I am "one of those chaps who *takes* a delight in finding fault" is mistaken in more ways than one.

I do not wish to imply that this is a very grave fault in English. It is due to carelessness and can easily be avoided.

You will notice that I have just used the word *imply*. This is often confused with *infer*. The difference in meaning between *imply* and *infer* is as great as the difference in meaning between *give* and *take*. *Imply* means to state indirectly. *Infer* means to draw a conclusion. By writing these articles I imply that it is worth while to treat the English language with respect. And that is what I hope you infer.

You should not say, "He inferred that I was lazy," when you mean, "He implied that I was lazy." If you used "inferred" in that way you would imply that you did not understand its real meaning, and he would be right in inferring that you were lazy in your speech habits.

Averse is another word that usually takes *from* rather than *to*. But I am so averse from the idea of being thought dogmatic that I have no aversion for people who say they are averse to the idea of writing "averse from."

The Bible has "men averse from war" (*Micah, ii. 8*). The poet Gray writes: "What cat's averse to fish?"

But whether you averse to or averse from avoid confusing the words *averse* and *adverse*. You can be adverse to (hostile to) the whole business of bothering about the correct use of words: you cannot be adverse *from* it.

HAVE YOU *Ordered* THESE YET?

SPECIAL PARTIES

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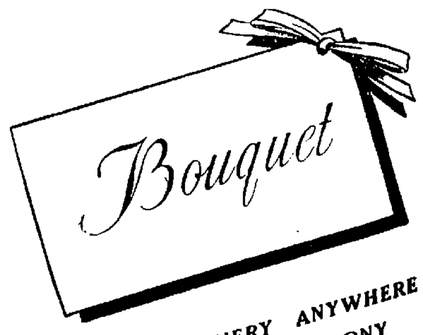

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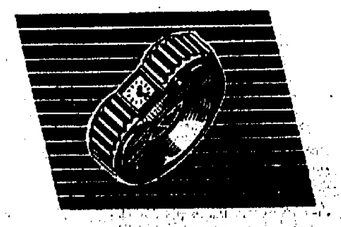

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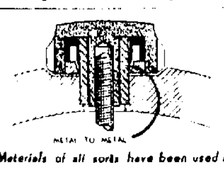
THE WATCH YOU WEAR

On your wrist today is a reliable, efficient and highly accurate timekeeper. But it would not be what it is, save for two great discoveries. This year marks their anniversary. Twenty-five years ago, the Rolex "Oyster" waterproof case was perfected, twenty years ago, the Rolex self-winding "Perpetual" movement.

The XVIIIth Century pioneers of horology, dreaming of near-perfection in watches, undoubtedly knew that their ultimate goal was unattainable until the delicate movement could be protected by a really waterproof case, and safeguarded from the vagaries of hand-winding by a reliable self-winder. In the Rolex "Oyster" case, patented in 1926, we have the first truly waterproof case. In the Rolex "Perpetual" Rotor mechanism, patented in 1931, we have the first truly trustworthy self-winding movement.



Materials of all sorts have been used in countless attempts to make a watch permanently waterproof. It was left to Rolex, in 1926, to discover the simple principle of the self-sealing action of one metal to another, and produce the first truly, permanently waterproof watch.

Proof of their efficiency, if proof were needed, lies in the fact that the self-winding waterproof watch is accepted today as an integral part of our modern life.

A radical and brilliant departure from all other attempts at a self-winding watch was the secret of the success of the Rolex "Perpetual". The superiority of the Rotor, invented by Rolex in 1931, is proved beyond any doubt by the fact that most self-winding watches built today have adopted the same principle.

Genuine advances in watch-making science come at all-too-rare intervals; here are two of which we thought fitting to mark the anniversary.

★ The cream of the Rolex production is marked by the famous Rolex "Red Seal." It is a sign that **EACH AND EVERY** Rolex chronometer has been submitted to the rigorous tests of a Swiss Government Testing Station, has passed them successfully, and has been awarded the coveted *Official* Timing Certificate. ★

THE ROLEX ROLL OF HONOUR:

Autumn 1905. Launching of the first Rolex *wrist*-watch.
March 22, 1910. First Rolex *wrist*-chronometer to obtain an *Official* Timing Certificate at a Swiss Government Testing Station.
July 15, 1914. Rolex obtains the first class "A" Certificate awarded to a *wrist*-chronometer, at Kew Observatory.
October 7, 1927. Mercedes Gleitze, London stenographer, swims the Channel wearing a Rolex Oyster, the world's first waterproof watch.
1931. Creation of the Rolex Oyster Perpetual, the first waterproof watch to *wind itself*.
1945. Launching of the Rolex Datejust, first waterproof, self-winding, wrist-chronometer in which *the date* is shown through a small window on the face.
1948. Rolex achieves the *highest-ever* accuracy for a 30 mm. size wrist-watch at the world-famous National Physical Laboratory, Teddington, England, with 93.8 points.
December 31, 1949. Rolex achieves the *highest accuracy record* for wrist-chronometers at Geneva Observatory for a 28.5 mm. size movement (859 points).
1951. Rolex obtains its 144th "Class A" Observatory Certificate from the Kew (N.P.L.) Observatory for its regular 10½''' round movement of 25.7 mm. diameter.

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Swiss OFFICIALLY certified waterproof and self-winding chronometers

THE RIDDLE OF THE BREAKAWAY BATTLESHIP — MAN IN THE TUG TALKS

BATTLESHIP BREAKS TOW IN ATLANTIC —November 7.

Headlines tell the story so far.. Now comes the dramatic statement of the purser who saw it all

Transport Ministry Grim Mystery Of Lost Battleship —November 25.

Search for Lost Hulk Called Off —December 6

I SAW THE LAST MOMENTS OF SAO PAULO

TOM GEEKIE, purser of the tug Bustler which was helping to tow the 41-year-old Brazilian battleship across the Atlantic, has told of the battle with 70-foot waves, six weeks ago, when the 19,000-ton ship disappeared and was never seen again.

The Sao Paulo, with eight men on board, was on the way to the Clyde for breaking up, towed by the tugs Dexterous and Bustler.

A Board of Trade inquiry is to be held on the loss. Search by radar-equipped planes was called off only after 150,000 square miles of the Atlantic had been covered.

Men of the Dexterous have described the parting of her tow rope. Shortly afterwards the tow rope from the Bustler parted, too.

Tom Geekie saw the parting. His verdict: "The Sao Paulo must have gone down quickly—within an hour."

Twenty-year-old Geekie comes from Glasgow. His first sight of the Sao Paulo was in Rio de Janeiro harbour when the eight-man crew of runners (spare hands, often riggers and longshoremen, some without specialised seafaring knowledge, who make up crews) was being put on board.

Geekie said: "I wouldn't have sailed in that ship. Bill Painter, boss of the runners, found that 5ft. by 4ft. ventilation ports were wide open.

"Manhole doors were off—hatches unsecured—there were no lifebelts, no radio, no power of any sort. Some repairs were done, and on September 18 a Brazilian dockyard surveyor inspected the ship — to pass her for sea-worthiness.

"We rigged up two Army walkie-talkies so that we could talk between the ships."

When the tow began a good speed of four knots was kept up, but by October 13 the ships slowed to three knots.

"Then the Paulo began to list to port. It was first blamed on the stiffish wind, but Bill Painter told us he had found water was rising below deck.

"We sighted the Azores on November 1.

"Two days later speed was down to two knots and a gale was blowing up."

'Not too bad'

THE Sao Paulo was now pitching and plunging like mad. "One minute our bows were under, the next she was up in the air. She was crabbing all over the place.

"Bill Painter wasn't worried. He radioed, 'Everything normal. She's behaving not too badly.'"

But a few hours later, in the early light of Sunday, November 4, the weather had passed gale force. It was logged as Force 11 (64-75 m.p.h.).

"All day it seemed to get worse. By 11 a.m. we were only holding our own, making no headway. Dexterous was pounding heavily. Huge seas were sweeping our decks, and the Paulo was wallowing broadside in the troughs.

"Nothing we could do would bring her head to wind. Half an hour after midday we spoke to the Paulo for the last time.

"Painter's words to me came faintly, almost smothered by the fury of the gale. It was the only time I heard him really worried—*'Making pretty heavy weather . . . keeping normal duties going . . . thick old girl's still watertight . . . care . . . other call . . . soon O.K.'*"

Just a blur

ONE hour later the Paulo was only a blur beyond a mist of driving spray. "We never saw her clearly again" said Geekie.

"Dexterous reported she could no longer steer. Captain McDonald was afraid she might ram the Bustler. He said he might be forced to slip his tow.

"I was sheltering in the saloon alleyway with third engineer Alec Edgar of Busby, Renfrewshire. The Dexterous seemed perilously close.

"I saw a shadowy figure battling his way towards her towing hook, on the after deck.

"He got within a few feet of it. Then the nylon rope parted and lashed wildly over the gunwale.

"At seven o'clock our Chief Officer, George Campbell, of Pollockshaws, Glasgow, was working on the after deck when there was a loud bang. A stream of sparks flew from the rail. Our wire was gone, too.

"We called up the Sao Paulo on the walkie-talkie. We kept it up for 20 minutes. We flashed our signal lamp in her general direction, but couldn't raise her. She was invisible. We never even saw her on our radar scan."

It was all Bustler could do that night to hold her own and keep head to sea. "Hour by hour we tried to call Painter and his men.

"Bustler searched without letting up. Then she reached Lisbon on November 22, 18 days after the Sao Paulo disappeared.

"At first we never let ourselves believe that Bill Painter and the Sao Paulo had gone down. But as the days became weeks and we looked back on that night we're bound to think she didn't live through it."

"You're right, Alice—It's him —The Abominable Milkman." —by VARNEY.

Would you like a table-top of marble off Everest?

asks **BERNARD WICKSTEED**

SO back from Everest comes another expedition, and still no one has reached the top of the highest mountain in the world.

If it had been 900ft. lower it would have been conquered years ago and nobody but geography teachers would have given it a second thought.

But it seems to be just that much too high for the stamina of man to overcome, and so remains a perpetual and taunting challenge. The latest expedition was the eighth, and no doubt there will be more.

Eleven books have been written about this one mountain, and at least another dozen have referred to it in part.

YOUNG MOUNTAIN

TWICE the climbers have reached 28,200ft., only to be beaten by those last 900ft. It doesn't sound much—900ft. It is about the height of Leith Hill, a little more than Arthur's Seat at Edinburgh, or about half the height above sea level of the Cat and Fiddle Inn, Derbyshire.

The summit of Everest is made of marble—solid, slippery, dark marble—and it is laid in slabs that slope downwards like the tiles on a roof.

If you could take a slice and polish it you'd have a wonderfully decorative table top, but when covered in snow and ice it is dangerous rock for climbing.

Even so it presents no difficulties that a competent mountaineer could not overcome at a lower altitude.

Mount Everest is about 50,000,000 years old. That's young for a mountain. Ben Nevis in Scotland is infinitely older, and was a mighty summit when the materials that comprise Everest were sediment at the bottom of a now vanished sea.

Before the titanic convulsions that pushed the sea bed into the sky there were fish swimming over it. Some geologists believe the sea bed that became a mountain is still getting higher.

NOBODY LOVES IT

MOUNT EVEREST was "discovered" 99 years ago by an Indian clerk who had probably never even seen it. Until then it was known as Peak XV and was just one of the scores of ill-mapped mountains in the Himalayas.

This clerk, whose job was computing their heights from the figures of surveyors, came rushing into the office of his superior one day in 1852 and shouted: "Sir, I have discovered the highest mountain in the world."

He had. Peak XV — it was named Everest later after Sir George Everest, the Surveyor-General of India—appeared from the figures to be 29,002ft. high, and that is still its official height, though later surveys have put it at 29,141ft.

The highest mountain in the world is a mountain that nobody loves. It doesn't rise up from a plain for everyone to admire like Fujiyama or Kilimanjaro in Africa. It is hidden by lesser mountains from all but a few Tibetan monks and the tea planters around Darjeeling. It may have given moments of elation to the climbers of its lower slopes, but the upper parts, particularly those 900 unconquered feet, have brought pleasure to no one.

Those who have reached 27,000 or 28,000ft. say they felt like sick men climbing in a dream. Because of the lack of oxygen they had to take five breaths for every step advanced and everything they did seemed nightmarish and unreal.

If you took a normal person straight up to a height of 29,000ft. he would lose consciousness and quickly die. The Everest mountaineers have got as high as they did only by gradual acclimatisation.

They have tried carrying oxygen with them, but the extra weight and the inconvenience of the apparatus were too great and they did no better than those without it.

Airmen have flown over Everest on at least three occasions, but that doesn't count. The challenge is to do it on foot.

UNBEATEN, BUT . . .

IT may seem a crazy obsession, but as long as Everest is there, and unbeaten, men will try to climb it. Some day, perhaps, some youngster with the heart, lungs, and will-power of a superman will stagger up those last 900ft. of icy marble and peer in a semi-conscious daze from the highest spot on earth.

It will be a feat that represents just about the limit of human endurance.

—*(London Express Service)*

Miss Paget

by JAMES PARK

She pours money into racing—but not into clothes

DOROTHY PAGET, the racehorse owner, is the most-talked-of personality on the English Turf. Now she has set the Turf talking again — by her sudden difference with Bryan Marshall, her jockey.

I am sure that Miss Paget does not at all mind being talked about. For this has been happening to her for years.

The couturiers and the hairdressers would have a thin time if the Paget 'ensemble became the fashion. Summer and winter she turns out in her regular uniform straight hair, a long grey coat reaching almost to her ankles, suede boots, a small hat usually off the face and turned up at the brim with the inevitable cigarette in a holder.

You will never see Miss Paget without her staff. There are always three or four of them, one usually walking alongside talking and the others following on behind.

One has the task of carrying around all the racing form books.

What they all do I do not profess to know.

Miss Paget, 46 years old now, is the second daughter of the late Lord Queenborough. She inherited a lot of money from her mother—daughter of American millionaire, W. C. Whitney. She lives at Hermit's Wood, Chalfont St. Giles, in Bucks.

Though Lord Queenborough was by no means a poor man, he often said he could not afford to go in for racing in a big way. So far as I remember, his one notable victory was when he won the 2,000 Guineas with St. Louis in 1922.

All her trainers

Just before the war a trainer asked me to look through the December Sales catalogue to see if I could recommend a horse at about £500. I asked who it was for and was told Lord Queenborough. At that time his daughter was paying enormous sums for yearlings.

I cannot recall all the trainers Miss Paget has had since she disposed of the fleet of Bentley cars she raced at Brooklands and went in for horse racing instead. Those that spring readily to mind are the late Basil Briscoe, Donald Snow, Walter Nightingall, Fred Darling, Henri Jelliss and his son Harry, the late Captain O. Bell, G. T. Johnson-Houghton, Fulke Walwyn and the late Owen Anthony.

A disagreement after Golden Miller had fallen in the Grand National resulted in the jumpers leaving Briscoe's stable.

Her secretary

Some of her trainers have told me Miss Paget does not herself like talking on the telephone. The conversation is usually conducted through one of the staff.

For many years Miss Ruth Charlton has acted as a sort of secretary and racing manager to Miss Paget. Ruth Charlton, elegant of figure, and always dressed in the latest fashion, provides a contrast to Miss Paget, who never seems to be very particular about her appearance.

It is only when she thinks she may have a winner or two that Miss Paget makes a flying visit to the racecourse. She will arrive just before the race and leave as soon as it is over. She has no interest in anyone's horses except her own.

When Miss Paget is not present, Ruth Charlton is usually to be found running around looking for a telephone. She has to ring up with all the facts Miss Paget requires and sometimes even find out whether a horse will run or not.

A few years ago the Stewards of the Jockey Club asked a number of Newmarket trainers to a conference to discuss the possibility of an overnight declaration of runners. At that time Henri Jelliss was training for Miss Paget.

When he was asked for his opinion he said that in his case it would be out of the question. It was no uncommon thing for Miss Paget to ring up late at night and order a horse to be sent to a meeting the following day. Then, after the horse had arrived at the course, the order might be countermanded and the horse returned to his stable without running.

Never again . . .

With all her mannerisms, Miss Paget has been a great asset to the turf. It is impossible to compute the money she has sunk in racing and breeding. At one time she must have had at least a hundred or more horses, including horses in training on the flat, jumpers and ponies (Tommy Carey rode for her at the ponies and Steve Donoghue's son, Pat, trained them), brood mares, foals and yearlings.

She has bought lavishly at the yearling sales, and also bred her own horses. She pours money into the pockets of racecourse executives. And I have known her to nominate five or six horses for a small steeplechase.

There will never be another Dorothy Paget. Nobody in the next generation will have the money to do what she has done —and is still doing today.

JOHNNY HAZARD — By Frank Robbins

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WEEK-END WOMANSENSE

SHAPING THE FUTURE

by Dorothy Barkley

LONDON.

THE balloon sleeve, the crinoline skirt, and the dress with the long matching coat are three developments which are now shaping the future of fashion. All three appeared recently in the new collection, presented by Arthur Banks, an independent London couturier. All are proving popular with overseas buyers.

★ ☆ ★

The dress and matching coat, which Arthur Banks prefers to the usual choice of a light suit, should prove an invaluable addition to any wardrobe. The two look extremely elegant together, and both can, of course, be partnered alternatively—the coat with a suitable dress, and vice versa. Printed silk surah is the most successful choice of material: topaz printed with black spots makes an attractive colour combination. Typical styles for dress and coat are illustrated here: the dress has a square cut, draped neckline, and slim skirt; the coat is cut on fuller lines and is loose-fitting. The tuxedo fronts accentuate the long line.

By way of contrast to the long slimness of this dress-and-coat, is the puffed-out, bulky look of the balloon sleeve, which adds a novel — and attractive — touch to a suit or odd jacket. Usually this sleeve is three-quarter length, billowing out from shoulders to elbow, where it is caught in by a narrow band. Such a sleeve can be balanced by long satin gloves reaching from fingertips to elbow. It is used for the little jacket which accompanies the still-popular "topless" dress. (See illustration). The high-waisted princess line — an echo of Dior's successful "directoire" line — is a style frequently chosen for the topless dress with the cover-up jacket. A black-spotted beige grosgrain for the jacket and dress top make a good contrast to the plain blackness of the skirt. The flat, broad-brimmed hat has unusual lattice-work braiding on the lower side of the brim.

★ ☆ ★

For the younger girl, Arthur Banks shows delightful dresses in gossamer weight materials — fine nylons, and chiffons in smoke blues and misty greys. One, in blue nylon checked with white—the checks so small that from a distance the effect was one of haze on a warm day—had a little, velvet trimmed collar, and a flat-fitting bodice, above the fullest of full skirts. A second dress of this type introduced the new form of pleating called "mushroom" pleating because it resembles the gills of a mushroom. Taffeta is the ideal material for this very fine tucking.

And remember, with these right all-but-transparent dresses, it is equally important for the right underneath to be crisp and fresh, too.

The perfect accessory colour to go with these misty shades is grey. Hats are "basket" straw boaters, or "shovel" velvet in blue.

★ ☆ ★

The outbreak of white accessories is less prominent than last. Many designers have a marked preference for black which, as those who live or work in a town know only too well, is a far more practical colour for gloves as well as for shoes.

And, finally, the crinoline skirt. The crinoline is having its greatest vogue since the Golden Victorian Age. But, thankfully, this new version is smaller, much more manageable than its Victorian ancestor. In organdie, nylon or grosgrain; in white, black or a harlequin combination of all the colours of the spectrum, it looks equally attractive. But perhaps most striking of all is the fine white grosgrain, used for the dress illustrated. Diamond acorns are embroidered in three rows round the bodice, and at intervals on the skirt. The charm of the dress is its simplicity.

LEFT: The dress with the long matching coat — in black spotted topaz silk.

●

CENTRE: The crinoline skirt—in white grosgrain embroidered with diamond acorns.

●

RIGHT: The balloon sleeve —on a high waisted jacket in black spotted beige grosgrain.

NECKLACES

Here is another idea to make for yourself at home. Take a piece of narrow velvet ribbon, and sew half a dozen small rein bells to it; make a bracelet in the same way.

Now here are a few last-minute suggestions:

Wind fresh flowers round plain gold earrings;

Pin a glittering brooch across the back of your hair; it looks wonderful with a long style.

With a black sweater and kirt, wear a tartan stole and matching tartan ballet pumps. (It's the greatest sin in a Scotsman's eyes to mingle tartans).

Hang a tiny perfume dispenser from your bracelet—a good way to make the fragrance last the entire evening.

That Facial Before Your Party

—Advises Marilyn Marshall

WHEN you are tired, all of you sags, but your face is where fatigue shows most and where it can do the most lasting damage—where beauty is concerned.

It is a wise woman who learns to buffer herself against all the little tensions and strains that make up the day's load of tiredness. She is a nicer person to live with; and, what's more, she hangs on to her youth longer. You should give yourself a proper facial the day before your Christmas party.

If you have a desk job or work at a typewriter all day long, make a habit of stretching your spine at intervals. You can do this without getting up from your chair, and you can do it quite inconspicuously. Just sit forward on the seat of the chair with your back straight, shoulders down and relaxed and hands resting limply, palms up, on your thighs.

All set? Now, push in your lower abdominal muscles and force the small of your back out. Hold that. Tighten your hip muscles (the ones you are sitting on!) and, with small of back still forced out, begin to stretch up with your spine and, at the same time, to roll your shoulders back, back, using only the muscles at the sockets. Gently relax and do it again. You will feel so good while you are doing this little relaxer that you will not need any sales talk on it!

Strangely enough, keeping the tension out of your poor, hunched-over shoulders will keep the lines out of your face.

Following is another effective stretch-relax stunt for you: Assume the same starting position on your chair, push the small of the back out and stretch up with the spine as before, then, holding your head as high as a flower on its stem, turn your chin over your left shoulder while you roll your right shoulder backward; hold it for a second, gently relax, and repeat with chin over the right shoulder as you roll the left shoulder back. Throughout this and the preceding exercise, arms, hands and legs should remain limp and perfectly relaxed. It is your spine that should get the workout.

I have a third spine stretcher for you to do when the Boss steps out of the office for five minutes. Stand with feet parallel and your thighs lightly touching the desk, have your hips pulled in, small of back out, and rest both hands, palms flat with thumbs forward and fingers turned so that they are parallel with the edge of the desk. Now, slowly twist your trunk to the left as far as you can twist it without letting the fingertips of the right hand leave the desk top. Hold it for a second; then twist similarly to the other side.

These are Simon-simple tension duffers; they will, however, keep you from building up tension and fatigue—during the day.

And at the end of the day, treat yourself to a really restful facial. The first step is to cleanse your face thoroughly.

I like the combination of soap and water plus cleansing cream. Here is a method: Wash your face with a cloth or sponge or soft brush with plenty of good soapy water. Have the water lukewarm and scrub well, but without pulling your skin about. Dry your face and apply a layer of cream working it well. Wring out a cloth in quite warm water and press it against your face for a few minutes so that the warmth combines with the cream to soften and cleanse your skin still further. Remove the cream with tissues and go over your skin with a dab of cotton dipped in ice water.

After cleansing, apply a good mask—almond meal, cream, or whatever you please, and while the mask gets in the work, lie on your back on the floor with your feet hooked up over the edge of a couch or low chair. Try to have your back and shoulders so relaxed that they seem to sink into the rug and see how flat, yet relaxed, you can make the back of your neck.

Relaxing is something many of you have to learn, but you can learn it, and it is worth learning. It will save wear and tear on you and your face.

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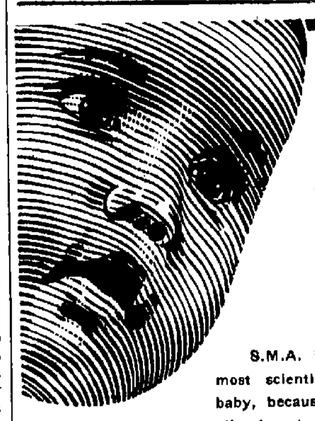

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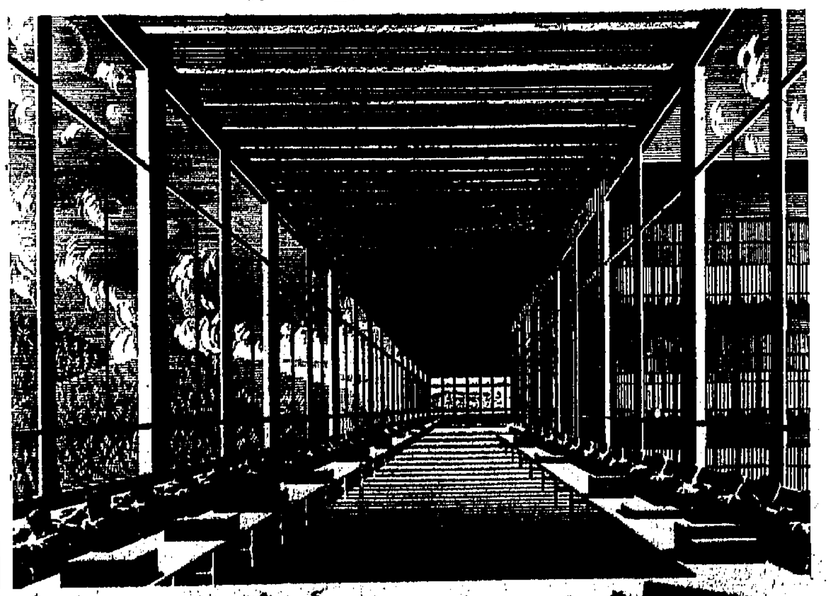

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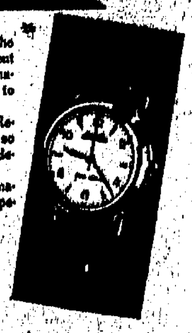

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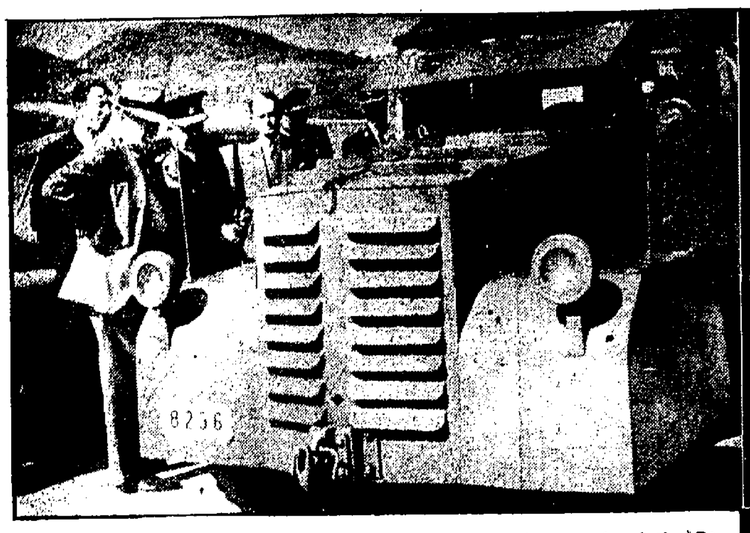
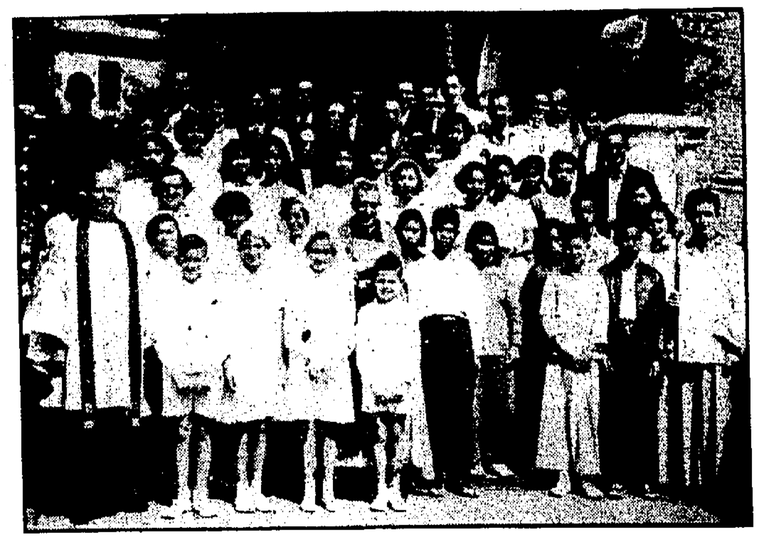


THREE pictures taken during the visit to Hongkong last week of the Rt Hon. Oliver Lyttelton, Secretary of State for the Colonies. Above photo, taken by a Government photographer, was made during Mr Lyttelton's trip to the New Territories and the border, when he stopped to admire a Police armoured car. Upper right: Mr Lyttelton with Chinese Members of Councils, the Hons T. N. Chau, Sir Man-kam Lo, S. N. Chau, M. W. Lo and Ngan Shing-kwan. Lower right: Mr Lyttelton with Mr Shum Choy-wah, Chairman of the Chinese Manufacturers' Union, at the exhibition of local products. (Staff Photographer)



AT St Andrew's Church last Sunday, the Bishop of Hongkong, the Rt Rev. Ronald Hall, officiated at a bilingual Confirmation service. He is seen here with those who were presented. (Staff Photographer)

GROUP picture taken at the farewell party given by the staff of the Hongkong Engineering and Construction Co., Ltd. in honour of their manager, Mr A. V. Skvorzov, who is leaving on retirement. Mr and Mrs Skvorzov are fourth and fifth from left in second row. (Staff Photographer)

MR U Tat-chee, Vice-Chairman of the Hongkong Chinese Manufacturers' Union, signs his name on the visitors' scroll at the exhibition of local products organised by the Union. (Staff Photographer)

ELLEN, daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Boulton, was christened at St John's Cathedral last Sunday. Miss Marie Whittaker, godmother, is holding the infant. (Ross Miller)

RIGHT: Surg.-Lieut. Donald Macdonald and Miss Dorothy May Annett, whose wedding took place at St Andrew's Church last Saturday. (Staff Photographer)

MR Chia Pic-tek and his bride, formerly Miss Jenny Auw, pictured outside the Registry after their recent wedding.

NURSES of the Kowloon YMCA Division of the St John Ambulance Brigade, who won the Arculli Nursing Shield at last Sunday's competition. (Staff Photographer)

MISS Marie Butt, promising young artist, held her first exhibition in the Jacobean Room of the Hongkong Hotel last week. She specialises in Chinese water colours. (Staff Photographer)

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Fine Shoes

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MR M. S. Lam and his bride, formerly Miss Lee Foon-chuk, after their wedding at the Registry recently.

THE "Brown Bomber," former heavyweight champion of the world Joe Louis, seen at Kai Tak on his arrival here last Sunday. (Staff Photographer)

New from PHILCO

7.2 cu.ft.

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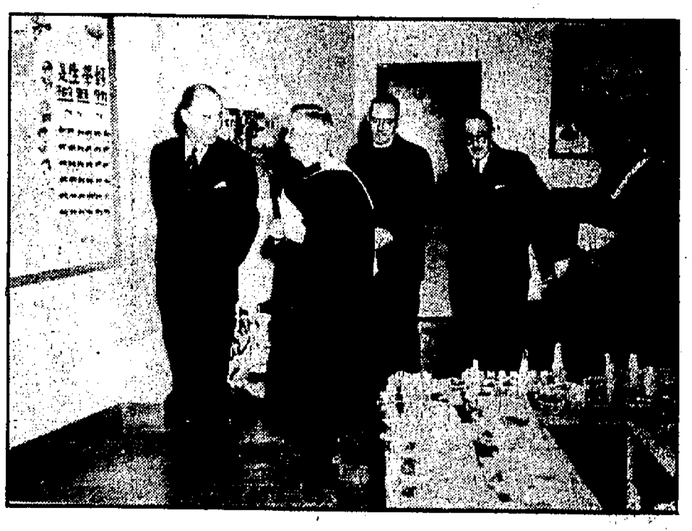
CHRISTMAS COLOUR

SOME topical reminders of the festive season. 1. Carol concert given by the Hongkong University Christian Association. 2. Magic for the Forces, at the Cheero Club Christmas concert. 3. Father Christmas visits the Little Flower Club, and is hailed by the kiddies. 4. Lantern procession by students of the Maryknoll School at the Hongkong Concert Orchestra's annual Christmas concert. (Staff Photographer)

MRS T. Strangeways giving away prizes to children of St Andrew's Church Sunday School at the annual celebration last Sunday. (Staff Photographer)

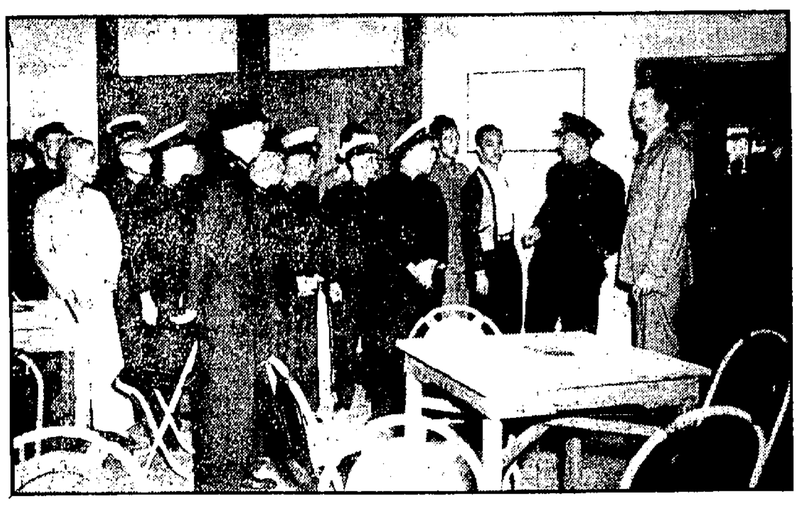


HIS Excellency the Governor, Sir Alexander Grantham, who opened the new Methodist School in Kowloon this week, being conducted round the building by the Rev. A. H. Bray. (Staff Photographer)

LEFT: Captain Alan de Bray Faulkner, of HQ 1st Commonwealth Division, Korea, and Miss Florence May Thomson, who were married at the Registry on Monday. (Staff Photographer)

MISS Joan Whittington, Director of Overseas Branches of the British Red Cross Society, speaking at a meeting of voluntary Red Cross workers at Sandilands Hut. Lady Grantham is second from right. (Staff Photographer)

THE Rev. Fr C. M. Orlando distributing certificates at the annual graduation day of the Maryknoll Convent School. (Mainland Studio)



PICTURE taken at the opening of the Hongkong Tramway Limited's new staff welfare centre. The building stands over the Bowrington Canal. On the right is Mr C. S. Johnston, manager of the company. (Staff Photographer)

MR Chang Chik-yeen and Miss Chang Chik-wan photographed at the reception following their wedding recently. (Mainland Studio)

DAVID Tsui, son of Mr and Mrs Henry Tsui, blowing out the candles on his birthday cake. David, who is seven, had many friends at his party. (Peter Tse)

RIGHT: Participants strain hard and spectators get excited during the tug-of-war event at the annual sports of the Stanley Reformatory School. (Staff Photographer)

Christmas Greetings

to all our friends and patrons

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WE THINK WE HAVE

THE DEAREST SCARVES

IN THE COLONY!

They are pure soft cashmere and made by Munrospun. There are three plain shades —grey, blue and black. They must be handled to appreciate why they are worth every cent of a hundred and twenty five dollars EACH.

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13, CHATER ROAD

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FRY'S
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Filled with Santa's selection to gratify every little child. Christmas wishes

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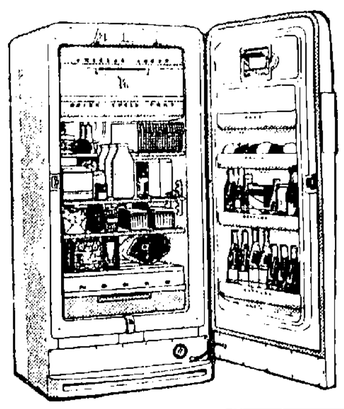

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PRACTICAL HOMECRAFT

Housework For Home-Owners

By JOAN O'SULLIVAN

IT takes a heap of living and a heap of hard work to make a house a home, although the poet forgot to point out this latter in his poem. But ask anyone who has his own house and he'll tell you it's true.

Buy a new home and, in what seems like no time at all, repairs need to be made. Other repairs aren't required, you start planning improvements. Anyway you look at it, there's always something that needs to be done.

With the cost of living the way it is now, chances are the most of the house fix-up work will get done on weekends and holidays. Hiring professional help adds such a big item to the family budget that many husbands are doing home repair work themselves. And what a job! Some fix-it hands have the know-how, others assist you can learn from experience; all will find a new volume, "The Complete Home Repair Book," a valuable addition to the homemaker's book shelf.

★

This encyclopaedia of household how-to-do contains 1,018 pages of helpful hints and instructions, plus innumerable pictures, drawings and diagrams, some of which are reproduced here. It covers the house inside and out, attic to cellar.

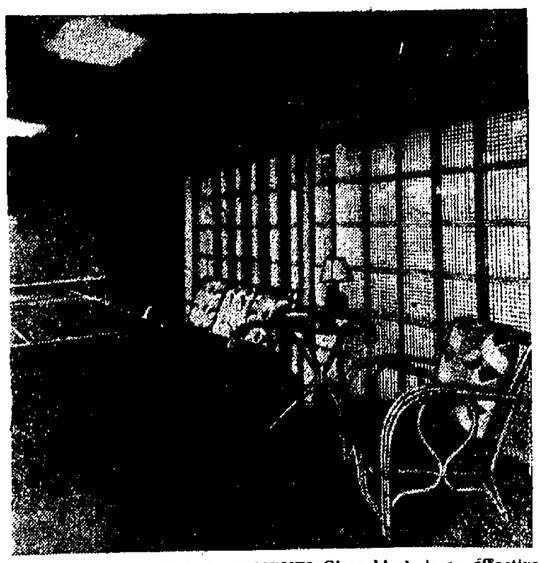
The volume is divided into chapters covering interior and exterior maintenance and repairs, including plumbing, plastering, roofing and painting. Furniture and upholstery is considered, too. Interior woodworking projects, electrical appliances and concrete masonry are included in the section on Home Improvements.

There are eight sections devoted to instructions for repairs requiring woodworking hand and power tools, metalworking hand and power tools, plumbing and heating tools, electrical tools, concrete, plastering and masonry materials, and painting and decorating supplies.

Home insulation is covered in still another section and there are several chapters on the control and extermination of insects and other pests.

The volume more than lives up to its name. It's a "Complete Home Repair Handbook" that's guaranteed to make a handyman out of any husband.

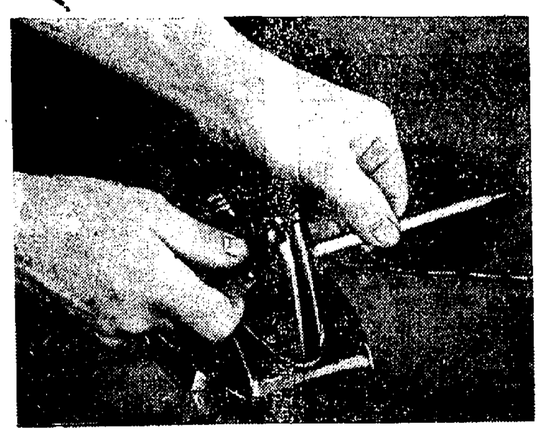
The publishers are so pleased with this volume that they've reprinted some of the material from the section on home improvements in a 62-page booklet, "How to Make Your Home Worth More."



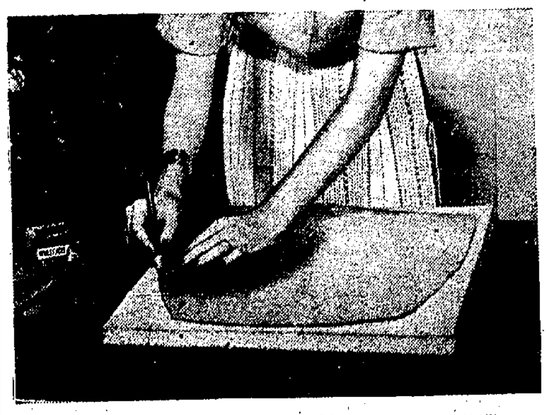
REMODELLING THE BASEMENT? Glass block is an effective wall treatment. The Complete Home Repair Book tells how to install it.

When You're Painting, you can produce an interesting texture by using a roller stippler.

A Dotted Design makes walls more attractive. It can be produced by using a cellulose sponge.



WHEN HOME APPLIANCES need repairs, the chapter on fixing household items offers constructive advice on irons, toasters, etc.



IF DINING ROOM CHAIRS look shabby and worn, save money by covering them yourself. Make a pattern with wrapping paper.

HOME needlecraft

FRINGE CROCHET STOLE

Approximate size: 11 inches by 58 inches

SNUG as the proverbial bug in a rug is this fringed stole that's perfect for wear over your new woollen dresses or your first autumn suit. Make it to match or to contrast—but DO make it . . . and wear it on endless occasions! An extremely easy pattern to crochet.

MATERIALS: Afghan Germantown, 5 skeins. Plastic Crochet Hook, Size 10.

GAUGE: 7 sts 2 inches.

Ch 44, 1 dc in 3rd st from hook, 1 dc in each remaining st of ch. 43 dc—ch 2 counts as 1 dc.

PATTERN—ROW 1—Ch 2, turn, skip first dc, * 1 dc around stem of next dc, inserting hook from front to back; 1 dc around stem of next dc, inserting hook from back to front; repeat from *, end 1 dc around stem of next dc, inserting hook from front to back; 1 dc in space before ch 2. Repeat last row until 54 ins. from beg. Fasten off. Steam to 11 inches by 58 inches.

FRINGE: Wind yarn on a 2½ in. cardboard, cut one end. Tie a 5-strand fringe in each space between sts on both ends and on end of each row on sides. Trim fringe evenly.

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

(Abbreviations for all handknit instructions.)

k	knit	psso	pass slip stitch over knit stitch
p	purl	s c	single crochet
st (s)	stitch (es)	d c	double crochet
inc	increase	d p	double point
dec	decrease	hdc	half double crochet
tog	together	tr	treble
y o	yarn over	sp	space
sl	slip	rpt	repeat
sl st	slip stitch		
ch	chain		

* . . . this symbol indicates that the directions immediately following are to be repeated a given number of times in addition to the original.

"Work even" means to work without increasing or decreasing, keeping established pattern.

*, or † . . . these symbols indicate that the directions immediately following are to be repeated a given number of times in addition to the original.

All stitches within [ ] are to be worked in same stitch or place.

Colourful Table

OPEN house at the Christmas season should be the gayest gathering of the year. Whether it's a table set to treat the Christmas carollers or a party planned for the neighbours, make the refreshments as colourful as the season.

An eggnog bowl is the traditional centre of the holiday refreshment table. The recipe is as traditional as the custom in many families. The man of the house doesn't consider the holidays have begun until he puts together his special mixture of eggs, milk and cream, sugar and spirits.

But for the family without an eggnog specialist, here's a recipe for a really special party punch bowl.

EGGNOG BOWL

6 egg whites
¾ cup sugar
6 egg yolks
1 pint heavy cream, whipped
1 pint milk
1 pint whisky
2 tbsps. rum

Beat egg whites until stiff and add ¼ cup of sugar while beating. Beat egg yolks until light and fluffy, adding remaining ½ cup sugar while beating. Then fold beaten egg whites and yolks together. Add whipped cream and mix. Add milk, whisky and rum. Stir thoroughly, chill and serve in punch cups with grated nutmeg sprinkled over top. Recipe will fill 15 punch cups.

Old-fashioned beaten biscuits served with ham are ideal additions to the buffet table.

BEATEN BISCUITS

½ cup lard
4 cups flour
1 teasp. salt
¼ cup sweet milk and water mixed (ice cold)
1 egg white, beaten

Rub lard, flour and salt together before adding milk and water. Then add egg white, well beaten. Place dough on wooden bread board or marble slab and beat with heavy wooden mallet for 30 minutes until dough blisters and is quite smooth. (An alternate to the custom of beating the dough is to knead the dough, then put it through the meat grinder two to three times, using the very coarse knife.) Roll out to ½-inch thickness. Cut with biscuit cutter into small biscuits and stick lightly with fork. Bake in moderate oven (350 degrees) about 25 minutes.

LITTLE HAND-MADE GIFTS

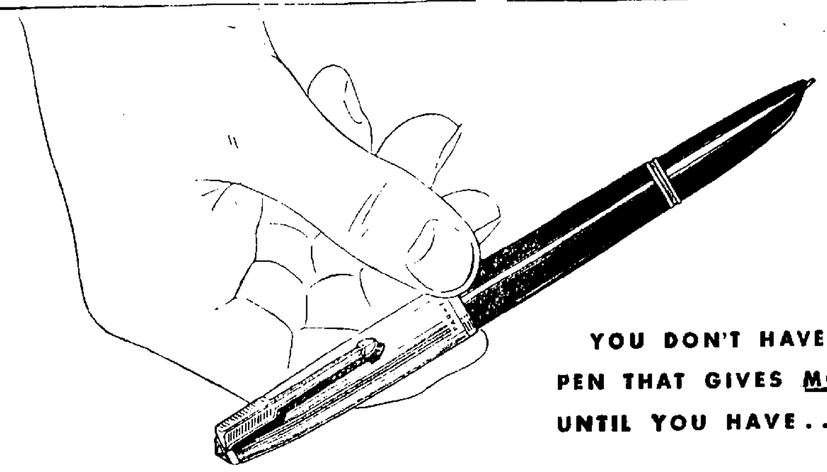
By ELEANOR ROSS

IT'S fun and a great big piece of holiday cheer to contrive some little gifts, small things, perhaps, but coming truly from the heart, and therefore very much in the Christmas spirit. Little stocking stuffers, perhaps, but none the less welcome are a set of spicy sachets.

To make, mix together an ounce of ground cloves, cinnamon, powdered nutmeg and caraway seeds. Sounds kitcheny, but it adds up to a very pleasant odor, and one incidentally, that the moths will stay away from. Sew the mixture into pretty little satin or taffeta bags and there you are! Simple little slippers, when treated to some multi-coloured sequins and a bit of gold or silver thread, come out anything but simple, and make a nice gift.

If you are at all handy with a crochet needle, there is your cue for some very smart conceits. How about a stole in a beautiful colour? Do it in a simple knot stitch in one straight piece and there you are. Remember that this is a terrific season for stoles and girls like them in every fabric and colour. A stole or evening cape done in Irish crochet would be fashionable and useful, too.

Easy to make is a velvet or ribbon muff. You can get the foundation at department and needle-work stores and you'll find it easy to cover. Velvet trimmed and tied at each end with silk cords, would please a teen-ager, we are sure, as would a matching store-bought velvet belt to which you have sewn sequins or pearl beads.



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This Year It's a Not-so-gay Paree

By HENRY THODY

PARIS.

TRADE in Europe's most expensive, most luxurious capital is doing a slow march. On the brilliantly-lit boulevards of Paris, the shops are almost empty, the cafes and restaurants only partly full.

Money is suddenly scarce, while prices are from 25 to 33⅓ percent higher than a few months ago.

Britain's new tourist cut has not helped, for with present prices £50 is good only for a long Parisian week-end.

Up in Montmartre there is more wringing of hands. At night spots where in the summer it cost at least £5 for a poor bottle of compulsory "bubbly" to watch a tired floor show, visitors are now welcome if they order only a ten shilling brandy-and-soda.

OVERSTOCKED

In smart restaurants head waiters used to scorn customers whose wallet, or stomach, was not strong enough to order through from pate de foie gras to banane flambe (banana doused with Kirsh and set alight).

Today a Briton ordering a straightforward steak and chips is given VIP treatment.

Butchers and grocers in their overstocked food shops, enough to make a British housewife weep, are themselves shedding tears over customers' resistance to new prices.

In numerous lingerie shops idle assistants stand by shelves packed with black-seamed nylons now 25s. and upwards a pair.

Much of this sudden price spiral is due to new Government taxes.

Petrol has been increased a shilling on a total of 5s. 8d. a gallon; threepence-halfpenny has been added to cigarettes.

Also up are gas, electricity, public transport (the equivalent of a twopenny bus fare in Britain costs sixpence in Paris).

These new taxes are mainly needed to offset unwise Government spending.

REVOLUTION

A revolution — there is no other word for it—is in progress among the great unwashed of the studios, garrets and caves of the Paris Left Bank.

Here live the students — the coming Sartres, Picassos, Matisses, the future geniuses.

Now, over in St Germain des Pres, where the mention of soap has the same shocking effect as rum at a temperance gathering, someone has started a new slogan.

"You don't have to have a beard and a dirty shirt to be a genius," they declare.

A group of students, the "Young Authors United," have launched a campaign against the doctrine that dirty fingernails and hair below the coat collar are part and parcel of a brilliant mind or a deft touch of the brush.

These "Young Authors" recently toured St Germain perched on the top of old taxis, equipped with DDT guns, moth-balls and sample packets of soap.

They had no difficulty in finding victims.

One St Germain shopkeeper told me this week "I've already had three students surreptitiously asking for soap. Monsieur, The Left Bank isn't what it was."

ENVIOUS MPs

French MPs are envious of Britain's new House of Commons. The old Palais Bourbon where the French National Assembly meets, is badly overcrowded.

French Deputies must now share lockers for their hats, coats, umbrellas; two Deputies one locker is the new rule.

Some unknown Frenchman has shown a fine Gallic sense of humour in the new allotment of lockers.

All women MPs find they are sharing lockers with men.

Many Right-wing, Socialist-loathing de Gaullists must now argue about the only coat-hanger, with a despised Socialist.

Ain't surely it is not a coincidence that M. Leforet (forest) is sharing with M. Violette.

But even the hidden humorist did not dare risk riots by mixing up Communists with the rest. Communists only share lockers with comrades.

THROWN OUT

Unlike Britain, France has a Minister of Sport—a very apparent—ed—to—a post M. Claudi Lemaitre the other day occupied his seat in the Assembly for the first time. An usher quickly threw him out.

He made further inquiries, found this was his correct seat, and returned. Again the usher was difficult.

Minister Lemaitre then said: "Monsieur, I am the new Minister of Sport. I haven't started to play yet but you already want to send me off the field!"

The average Frenchman dreams of owning his own restaurant, as many Englishmen think of having their own little shop.

So—a M. Maison of L'Yvonne Sur Soulting costs made the impossible.

He really M. Maison bought up a cheap lot of old 300 hectolitre wine barrels.

He lined them up in his small roadside vineyard, cut doors and windows in the ends, and installed a table for eight in each barrel.

A thatched roof keeps customers cool in summer, warm in winter.

The restaurant is the novelty of the Cabinet. Customers say the aroma in the barrels is like an aperitif on the house.

FORGERIES

A surprise awaits visitors to the offices of Chief Commissioner Clot of the Surete, France's Scotland Yard.

The walls of his four offices are hung with some of the world's most famous and expensive paintings.

How can a police official afford such masterpieces, the visitor asks himself.

With a grin the Commissioner will ask "How do you like this Van Gogh?"

He then tells you that all these paintings are forgeries. Many have fooled the world's leading art experts.

For six years Commissioner Clot's department has tracked down art forgers. He has "broken" fifteen big cases, and seized 200 canvasses, many of which now decorate his office museum.

CANNED!

Canned snails are now on sale in France, and with each tin comes a packet of empty shells.

The French housewife heats the tin, pops a snail into each shell, adds butter and garlic, then puts a cashful into a hot oven.

Much as the French denounce canning as an Americanisation of the French cuisine, tinned snails are popular.

"Just the thing when unexpected visitors call," say the housewives. French visitors, we hope.

DO YOU KNOW?

DID you know that in Britain December 25 was a festival long before the people were converted to Christianity? A famous historian named Bede records that "the ancient peoples of the Angli began the year on the 25th of December," and regarded that night as a sacred one.

* * *

Did you know that the first Mr Christmas was named after the greatest of all annual Christian feasts? Besides people bearing this uncommon name, there are many named Noel, Nowell, and Yule.

* * *

Did you know that the turkey, which is an American bird, is short for turkey-cock, a name originally applied to the guinea-fowl, which was often imported into Europe through Turkish territory?

* * *

Did you know that the term Santa Claus is from the Dutch Sint Klaas, for Saint Nicholas, the saint who first sent Christmas presents when he did not want those who received them to know from whom they came?

* * *

Did you know that the very early Christmas puddings were probably nothing but haggis, or the entrails of the pig or other animal stuffed with meat that had been minced, flavoured and mixed with oatmeal before being boiled?

* * *

Did you know that the custom of using holly and other green plants for decorating buildings at Christmas is said to be a relic of, the old days in Germany (or what is now Germany), when it was the practice to hang the interiors of dwellings with evergreens as a refuge for the wood spirits from the cold weather? It was considered lucky to get these spirits to enter and dwell in one's house during the winter months.

* * *

Did you know that the black people of the tiny British island of Barbados, in the West Indies, parade in great bands up and down the capital town of Bridgetown on Christmas Eve? Some of them dress in gorgeous uniforms, and form a body known proudly as the Land Navy, and every one carries some kind of banner and sings at the top of his or her voice.

Churchill's New Shake-up Man

By ANDREW WILSON

A DESK at the BBC will be empty soon. The man who usually sits there, 52-year-old, dapper Major-General Sir Ian Jacob, is going on a job for Mr Churchill.

He is to report on the behind-the-scenes working of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation. Mr Churchill wants to increase efficiency and cut down size.

Five Ministries, all intimately connected with NATO—the Defence Ministry, the Foreign Office and the Service Ministries—all knew about it, but all said bluntly "We can say nothing."

Only the BBC would confess: "He is to do a job for the Cabinet."

Growing . . .

IT is just seven months since NATO had its last shake-up. But already there is a lot for Sir Ian to report on.

Two big committees were dissolved in May.

Sir Ian

the Defence Committee (of Defence Ministers) and the Financial and Economic Committee (of Finance Ministers).

Their overlapping functions were absorbed by the new Supreme Council.

But although at high level NATO was streamlined its organising staff was not.

NATO'S administrative side grew larger. A new Finance and Economic Board was formed with executives, secretaries, typists, and telephonists.

Staff from two more "dissolved" committees—an Advisory Group on Raw Materials and an Economic and Financial Working Group—helped to swell the total.

More staff was called in for a new Defence Production Board, a new Ocean Shipping Planning Board, and an international staff, working in London, for the Council itself.

The purely military organisation has done nothing but increase from the day NATO was born.

. . . Growing . . .

NO wonder that Mr Eden, on his visit to the interim NATO conference in Rome, was shocked to find over 400 officials of all nations attending a function officially designed for only the highest representatives of the 12 countries.

Sir Ian brings to his new temporary job one of the keenest brains which has ever served the Army.

In 1939, at 40, he became Assistant Military Secretary to the War Cabinet.

Churchill, when he took office made Sir Ian one of his most intimate consultants, he advised at Big Three meetings.

Now he becomes the second of the Churchill "brains circus" (the first was Lord Cherwell) to be called back into service as a Shake-up Man since the election.

Friends once predicted for Sir Ian the rank of his father, Field-Marshal Sir Claud Jacob, but after the 1945 election defeat of Churchill he left the Army for broadcasting.

Now the prediction may be revived—and perhaps justified.

For a right-hand military man of Churchill's will not be tied to the B.B.C. (where he bossed the Overseas Services) for long.

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2. Special Cold Zakouska
3. Cream Chicken Soup or Soup Solianka of Fish A La Moscow
4. Garoupa Fish Palonnaise
5. Roast Turkey & Baked York Ham with Cranberry Sauce
6. X'mas Pudding
7. Fresh Fruit
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GRANT

Poor Mrs. Jordan! She could never say 'No'

MRS. JORDAN AND HER FAMILY. A. C. Aspinall. (Arthur Barker. 30s.)

QUEEN VICTORIA'S staid morality may well have been a reaction against the radlishness of her royal uncles, all of whom were involved in adventures by which she must have been horrified and far from amused.

There was George IV, secretly married to Mrs Fitzherbert and always scandalously busy; the Duke of York, publicly embarrassed by the revelations of Mary Ann Clarke; the Duke of Cumberland with his progeny on the wrong side of the blanket; and finally the Duke of Clarence, later William IV, father of ten children by the leading actress of the time.

No doubt it was very shocking; but when we examine the famous and long-standing love affair of the Duke of Clarence and Mrs Jordan ("Little Pickle" as she was popularly known, from one of her favourite parts) we find ourselves in an atmosphere of almost comic respectability.

SHE WAS DEVOTED

Mrs Jordan lived with the Duke for 20 years in a domestic atmosphere of the most wifely propriety. "Thro' your excellence," he wrote to her, "and kindness in private life I am the happiest man possible"; and he told Thomas Coutts, the royal family's banker, "I cannot help thinking her one of the most perfect women in this world."

Indeed, he seems to have been an excellent creature, devoted to her dotal needle-aged Duke and tactful in her efforts to make him happy. One of the remarkable things about her is that she showed no sort of financial greed in her relations with him, but poured her very considerable earnings into their joint menage and into the support of their children. When, at 50 she was pensioned off by the Duke so that he could be free to marry an heiress, she uttered no complaint, and though she died in neglected poverty after he had come to the throne did not reproach him.

Mrs Jordan's final poverty was not, as we learn from Professor Aspinall's introduction to this interesting collection of letters, the Duke's fault. He allowed her 3000 guineas a year while she was his mistress, and a pension of £2000 a year after, as well as providing for his own children and for three that she had had by other lovers. The trouble seems to have been in her own careless generosity, which made free with her purse as well as her affections. She was a woman who could never bring herself to say No.

BEYOND EUPHRATES. Freya Stark. (John Murray 25s.)

ABOUT once in a century the small shores and moist airs of the British Isles produce a traveller of genius, whose spirit is drawn to deserts and burning suns, and who has the rare gift of being able to interpret the experience.

Such a one is Freya Stark, who now in her late middle-age, married, and a great gardener and grower of lilies, lives in Italy, and is producing, volume by splendid volume, the story of her life.

The travels and lonely Arabian adventures of her youth have borne (and continue to bear) fruit because she seems to have been born, simply, a great writer - one who could not scribble even a hasty letter to a friend without illuminating the page a dozen times with felicities of expression which have the effect of little points of light.

EACH A GEM

In an age when the art of letter writing is almost extinct, this second volume of her autobiography stands up like a classic monument, being largely composed of wonderful letters written from the midst of her adventures (very often in haste and discomfort and even danger) to her parents and friends; letters written without any thought of publication, and each one a gem.

They now, tenderly preserved by their recipients, illuminate the adventurous story of her later thirties, when she wandered in Persia and Arabia, lived in Bagdad and earned her living there, and hunted treasure among the rocky slopes of Luristan.

Freya Stark is not the first Englishwoman to be fascinated by Arab life, and by the great emptiness, leisure and vitality of that great sandy continent; but she brings a rarer mind to her experiences than any other traveller of our time. She is a contemplative; out of every experience she distils a drop of something precious—sometimes a kind of minute inspired observation, sometimes wisdom.

FREYA STARK
On each page, points of light.

Consider these sentences on youth and age, scribbled in her diary when she was 38: "In spite of all that is said, it is happier later where the joy and the value of learning about it all is discovered, and our self comes to count for so little that its unhappiness scarcely troubles one. The ageing body need not impede the spirit very much. But never for a moment, if one desires this true contentment, can one think in terms of this life only: the proportion with eternity must be kept."

Beside this wisdom, which springs from her capacity for detached thinking (as well as the intellectual toughness which drove her to become a fluent Persian and Arabic scholar when once she had given her imagination to the East), her writing is full of a delicious quiet humour, and the flavour of a singularly generous personality. As well as scholar, traveller and distinguished writer, this rare being has always been a woman of great vitality and attraction, so that her life has had the added richness of great friendships and affections, which shines like a hidden lamp through all her work.

THE QUIET GENTLEMAN. Georgette Heyer. (Heinemann, 12s. 6d.)

FROM her own private vision of Regency England, Miss Heyer constructs a fictional never - never land in which laconic earls, formidable dowagers, beautiful heiresses and plain, common-sense Jane-Austenish heroines are entertainingly deployed. The Earl of St Erth; her latest hero, makes no claim to be taken seriously; but she has a respect for her reader which makes her seriously precise about all the local colour, dress, slang and dialogue of her characters. One feels there is a scholarly background to this lightest of feather-weight tales.

NEW BOOKS by MARGARET LANE

The SNAPSHOT GUILD

Time to plan those Christmas cards!

PHOTOGRAPHIC CHRISTMAS CARDS

IT'S NOT too late still for those photographic greeting cards for Christmas.

It's really amazing how popular photographic Christmas cards have become. They are a genuinely personal greeting, and at the same time allow the sender unlimited opportunity for cleverness and ingenuity. However, don't go too fancy. Some people utilise ordinary snapshots of themselves or their families, dressing the pictures up into pleasant little Christmas greetings. The prints can be mounted on cardboard or coloured paper, and a greeting added with ink. Or the greeting can be included right in the picture, such as with a child's alphabet blocks, or in a message on a card hung above the fireplace.

At your dealer's, you can obtain special Christmas card masks, containing a clever design and greeting, which will allow you to print your own cards at home. And, of course, the easiest way is to take your favourite negative to your dealer and have him make the cards for you.

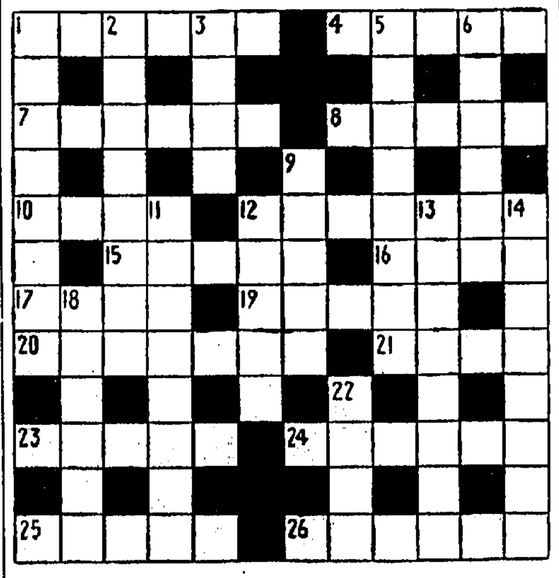
If you are using a straight snapshot for your greeting, pick something that is appropriate. Your relatives and friends will enjoy seeing the latest snaps of your family, or you at work at one of your hobbies, or your home after a pretty snowfall. Children are perhaps used more often than any other type of Christmas card subject.

Many camera fans create their Christmas message in the form of a clever table-top arrangement. It might be a Nativity scene, a cotton snowman, or a cardboard Santa Claus. If you are an advanced camera hobbyist, you can try trick shots and multiple negatives and other special effects. Don't make your card too complicated, however. A simple card that states its message without too many frills is usually the most effective.

You can have a lot of fun planning that Christmas card this year, and it is certain to please your friends. Just remember to keep it simple.

—John van Guilder

A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

1 Ventilating (8).
4 Bedeck (5).
7 Tried out (6).
8 Occurrence (5).
10 Related (4).
12 Stronghold (7).
15 Poison (5).
16 Weary (4).
17 Profound (4).
19 Snake (5).
20 Made certain of (7).
21 Complete collections (4).
23 Stiff (5).
24 Container (6).
25 Deduce (6).
26 Frank (6).

DOWN

1 Pose (8).
2 Determines (8).
3 Necessity (4).
5 Turns aside (8).
6 Boil down (6).
9 Shy (5).
11 Act for a person (8)
12 Desire greedily (5).
13 Guided (8).
14 Diminished (8).
16 Flag (6).
22 Molten discharge (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD.—Across: 3 Astounds, 9 Relish; 9 Contrite; 11 Competes; 12 Fell; 13 Idled; 18 Siren; 19 Open; 22 Reproved; 24 Revelle; 25 Aerial; 26 Discerns. Down: 1 Erect; 2 Plump; 3 Ascends; 4 Shot; 5 Oats; 6 Nailed; 7 Swells; 10 Never; 14 Libel; 15 Degrees; 16 Torrid; 17 Leaves; 20 Avoid; 21 Adult; 22 Rile; 23 Pins.

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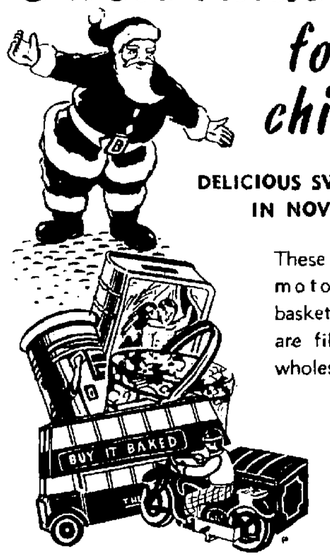

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LITTLE CANADA

Mrs Hopkins says 'Welcome' as the Sabre jets fly in

By ROBERT KINGSLEY

EDITH WESTON, Rutland.

TOMORROW looks like being the busiest day the village post office here has had for many years. A notice in the porch of the 300-year-old cottage that is the post office (it is thatched and has room for only two medium-sized customers at a time) tells you why.

"Last day for posting to Canada for Christmas," says the ink-lettered notice. And the reason for the rush? This little village of 56 houses and 160-odd inhabitants (more than 30 of them over 70), which owes its first name to being given as a wedding present by Edward the Confessor to Edith, his queen, has become "Little Canada."

The Royal Canadian Air Force's Sabre-equipped No. 1 Fighter Wing has moved in to the airfield over above the Wheatsheaf Inn, and 112 of the first 500 men have brought with them wives and children from Canada.

By springtime there will be 1,000 men and probably a higher proportion of families on the station, whose official name is North Luffenham.

THE IMPACT

This small village in England's smallest county, far from cities, under the impact of such a visitation, seems cheerfully to assume that it will absorb the visitors, rather than the reverse. Already you are struck by mutual loyalties existing between the two groups—the RCAF and the villagers. You criticise anything to do with Edith Weston in the presence of Canadians at your peril, the local people take it much amiss if you do not continue with them over the beer-mugs.

The supersonic Sabres rending the sky over the rolling, tawny, grey-walled countryside about the village may scream at a different pitch from the aircraft employed by the wartime RAF, just as their pilots talk with a different twang to their accents, but it doesn't matter. Edith Weston is convinced they will become as neighbourly and as much a part of the local scheme of things as the 12th-century church, the 200-year-old wooden church hall and the Big House (which is empty but on whose stables ghosts are said to be).

The village school seems to be a good starting point for observing the beginnings of this phenomenon.

The school is housed in wartime WAAF quarters: per cent of the children, 70 per cent are now Canadians. The rest are half-and-half village children and the children of RAF families who have not yet moved out. The school roll is 96.

Said Donald Beggs, the schoolmaster, who with his wife Dorothy, constitute two-thirds of the staff: "Already the children are picking up one another's idiosyncrasies."

IMPRESSED BY DINNER

"The English children are fascinated by the words they pick up—like 'cookies' for biscuits, and by the Canadians' clothes (which run to fur-lined boots, check lumber jackets, breeches, tartan trews, jeans, woollen caps and hockey sweaters).

"The Canadian children seem to be impressed by the fact that they have dinner and milk at school." Canadian boys have also taken enthusiastically to soccer on the school's rough and rolling grass playground, and all of the visitors love history lessons.

Mr Beggs, for his part, is fascinated by Canadian school readers and other books in the station's education office. Flying Officer Harry Chalmers has shown him.

We called on Flying Officer Chalmers, his wife Mary and son Hal (eight), a regular to the local school. They live in a two-bedroom prefab., warmed to something approaching Canadian standards by coal fires and oil stoves. While we were there Mrs Chalmers, who came here with her husband from Trenton, made tea for us—wondering how much to put in the pot, and missing the tea-bags of Canada.

The CO, Group Captain E. B. Hale, DFC, takes his wife and their son Paul, 4½, to their car for a shopping expedition to Oakham. Their other son, Michael, who is 7½, goes to a private school in a near-by village.

Canadians with their families at Edith Weston are living in four different kinds of homes. These are the prefabs, red-brick permanent quarters, 23 caravans, and several couples living on furnished rooms in cottages about the village.

There does seem to exist among some young villagers a fear that the last arrangement may make the housing problem, of locals more acute. They feel that some people who might otherwise vacate their houses may, with the influx, be reluctant to sell and prefer to rent to the Canadians. Current rates for a bedroom and a sitting-room appear to range from £2 2s. to £4 a week.

In one of the permanent houses, home RAF warrant officers' quarters, we visited Mrs Joyce Spears, wife of Wing Commander Tom Spears, the station's administrative officer. They come from Ottawa and have two children, Joanne (5½) and Judith (2½).

Said Mrs Spears, "I just go mad on the shopping here. Your woollens are so wonderful, and the children's clothes. Why, 'utility' seems as good as anything. And the nylon things in the shops . . ."

NOT CANDIES, SWEETS

Mrs Spears does most of her shopping in Oakham. She told us that her children, who go to a private school near-by, are already beginning to pebble-dash their growing Canadian idiom. "Not candies, mummy, sweets."

A couple of doors away, the Commanding Officer's wife, Mrs Edward B. Hale, said too that she found shopping here much better than she ever expected. Her 6ft 3in. husband, a former DFC flying with the RAF during the war, told us that invitations were coming in offering hospitality to airmen on their off-duty periods.

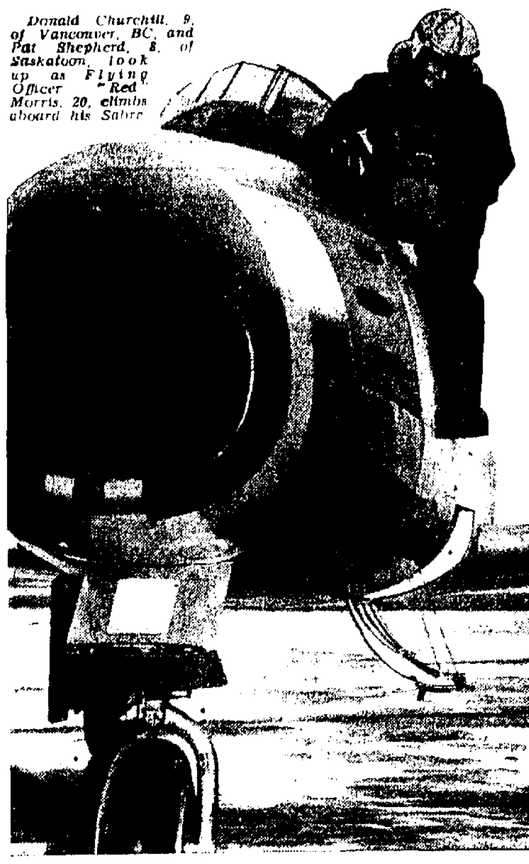
Hardly any of the wives we met in the caravans had experienced homes on wheels before, and most agreed the small space took some getting used to. They had few complaints about food, though families on the station are on English rations complete with ration-books.

They buy actual rations from the NAAFI, but also use the village shop. These wives thought the milk in Edith Weston better as well as cheaper than at home; the meat also cheaper, though they missed the T-bone, porterhouse and sirloin steaks which they could once get (at a dollar a pound).

Some of them said they missed being able to buy jam in 4lb. tins, flour in 7lb. sacks and other home packaging just as they missed "serve-yourself" shopping.

And the locals? The Women's Institute have invited Canadian wives to join them (and they hope to pick up some interesting cookery tips); the British Legion want to make the men welcome. The rector, who had a brother killed serving with the Canadians in the 1914-18 war and has a nephew living in Hamilton, Ontario, hopes he will see the visitors in his church.

Herbert Harry Cunningham, licensee of the Wheatsheaf, said: "Some of them are getting so good at darts already that we're going to arrange some games against the village team."



Donald Churchill, 9, of Vancouver, BC, and Pat Shepherd, 8, of Saskatoon, look up as Flying Officer "Red" Morris, 20, climbs aboard his Sabre.

Down at the Wheatsheaf in the village of Edith Weston, assimilation of the Canadians into the "local atmosphere is easy. But the landlord has had to increase his orders for bottled beers, which the visitors prefer to draught.

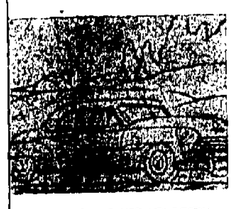
Mrs Loraine Horne, of Port Arthur, Ontario, hangs up her washing outside her caravan, helped by Carol.

Mrs Thomas Williams (left) and Mrs Harry Terry, both of Ottawa, return to the caravan camp after a visit to the village shop. Mealtimes in "Little Canada" are: Breakfast 8 a.m., dinner 12, and supper 5 p.m. when husbands come back from the airfield.

VIGNETTES OF LIFE

'Twas The Night Before

By KEMP STARRETT



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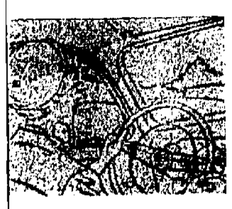

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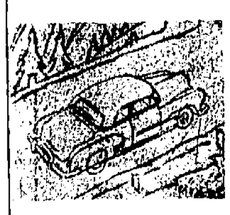

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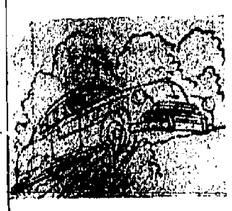

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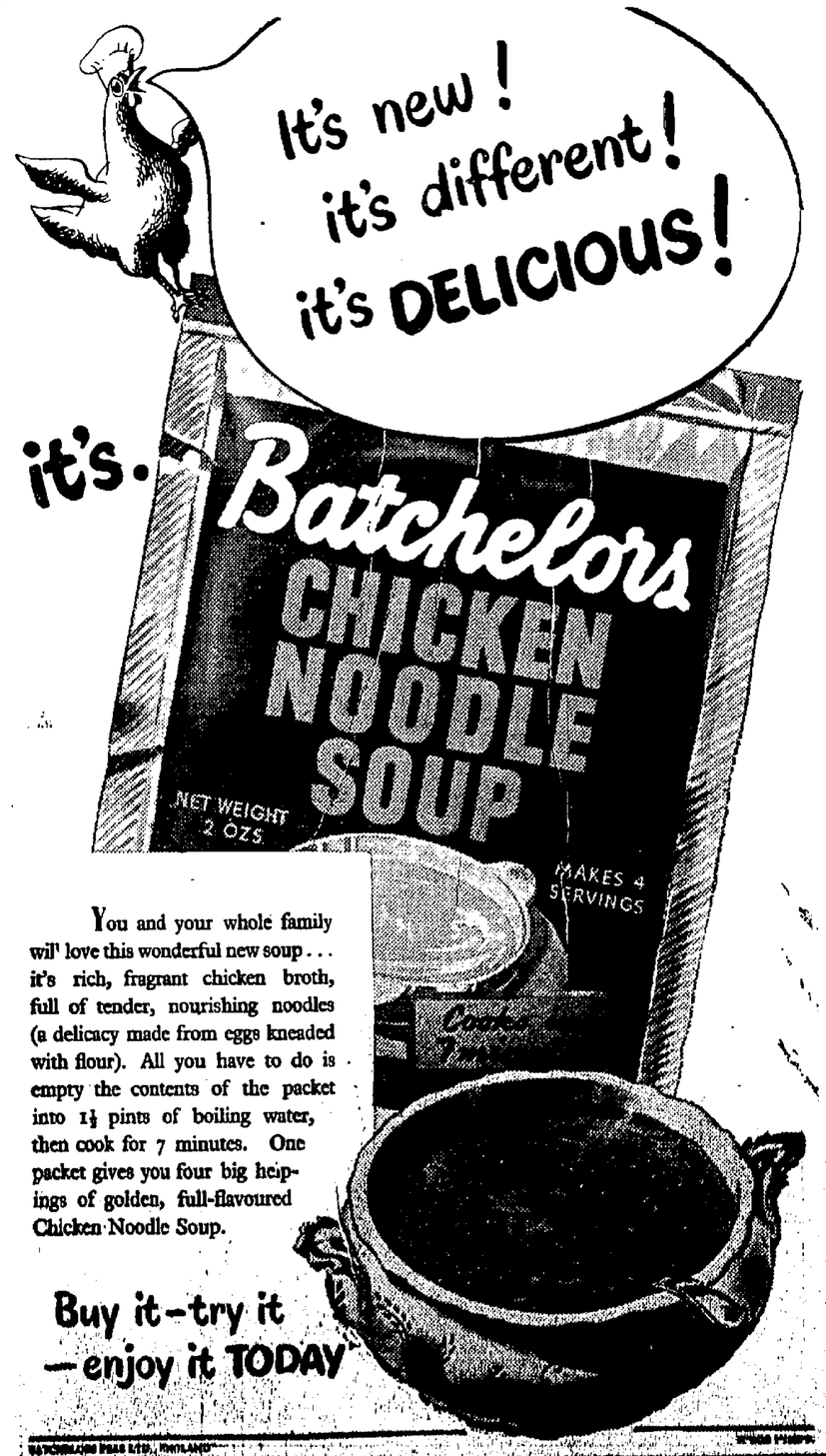


You and your whole family will love this wonderful new soup . . . it's rich, fragrant chicken broth, full of tender, nourishing noodles (a delicacy made from eggs kneaded with flour). All you have to do is empty the contents of the packet into 1½ pints of boiling water, then cook for 7 minutes. One packet gives you four big helpings of golden, full-flavoured Chicken Noodle Soup.

Buy it—try it
—enjoy it TODAY

BATCHELORS PEAS LTD., HONG KONG

WEEK-END CRICKET & HOCKEY

A feature of the week-end's sport will be the series of three hockey matches at Club de Recreio, commencing at 2 p.m. on Sunday, in aid of the Olympic Games Fund.

Combined Services meet the Hongkong Cricket Club in the most attractive cricket match of the week-end at Sookunpoo on Saturday and Sunday.

Sunday's series of three hockey matches will be Hongkong against Kowloon, Hongkong Ladies against Kowloon Ladies and Combined Services against the Rest in that order.

The teams have been very well picked and the matches promise some of the best hockey of the season.

In the big cricket match of the week-end neither the HKCC nor the Services have put in all their best-known talent. Services are relying on an attack spearheaded by Major Deighton and Major Pearson with some fair change bowling, but the batting machine out is a very formidable one.

T. P. Mahon and C. B. Connet are assisted by an assortment of change bowlers as the Club's attack who, on paper, do not appear too formidable against at least five batsmen capable of a century. There is enough batting in the Club XI, but most of the Club's best talent in this department is missing.

Two First Division League matches will be played on Saturday. Recreio are hosts to Army "B" at King's Park and the Indian Recreation Club to the Kowloon Cricket Club at Sookunpoo.

Ewo meets Taikoo in an Inter-Hong match at Chater Road on Sunday and Craigengower is devoting Sunday to an all-day match between Married and Single, concluding with an informal tea dance.

ALF GOVER'S CRICKET ACADEMY

1. Successful Batting

As in every part of the game there are certain basic essentials to batting which must be mastered before it is possible to go in and really build up the runs. Once these have become automatic in your own play then you can concentrate on the "tricks of the trade"—but not before.

In my first lesson I am going to outline the three essentials of good batsmanship—the stance, the grip, and the pick up.

THE GRIP

Left hand firm, right hand relaxed.

First the correct stance when watching the bowler run up to deliver the ball. The right foot (I am, of course, during these lessons referring to right-handed players) will be more or less parallel to the batting crease and about six inches behind it, pointing in the direction of point.

The left foot is about six inches in front of the back foot and should be at an angle of 45 degrees—that is pointing between mid-off and cover—the left heel being in line with the instep of the right foot. Study the photo until you can adopt the same stance automatically. Your weight should be evenly distributed over both feet, and on the heels and soles of the feet, never on the toes. In this position you will find it is easier to move forward or backwards to make your stroke.

THE RIGHT GRIP

Although the grip is really a simple thing to work out, I see all sorts of weird and wonderful ways employed and I sometimes wonder how the batsmen manage to swing the bat at all.

A very common fault lies in having the back of the hand behind the handle with the fingers facing the bowler. Another is having the correct grip with the hands, but keeping them so far apart that they work against each other.

The careful player can almost work out the grip for himself, by placing his hands on the bat and noticing where the protection on his gloves is placed. The right way is always the natural way.

First of all make sure the hands are close together, with the first finger of the left hand touching the little finger of the right hand.

The left hand is placed so that the actual grip is with the finger and thumb, the handle being in the palm of the hand with the back of the hand facing the bowler, as shown in the photo.

The right hand is placed so that the fingers face the bowler so that the thumb can be seen with the inside of the top joint also towards the bowler.

A golden rule to remember here—*grip tightly with the left hand, loosely with the right.* This will enable the left hand and wrist to swing the bat up and down when coming into the stroke.

CONTROL OF THE BAT

The bat *must* be picked up straight. A common fault is to pick up in the direction of third slip, in which case the downward swing will come from the same direction and cause a cross bat for all strokes.

Always take the bat back towards the stumps, keeping the right arm close to the body. Make sure the left arm does not go far away from its original line.

Cock the wrists when the bat is about twelve inches in the backward swing; this will not only facilitate the wrists working throughout the stroke but will also bring the face of the bat towards point at the top of the pick up.

Take the bat in the left hand only, pick it up with the face to point, and holding it very loosely let it swing down. You will find at the end of the down swing it is facing the bowler.

Practise picking up with the left hand only, making sure you have picked up straight, then swing the bat as though it were a pendulum. You will find after a period of time that you will be able to do this quite easily, and have full control of the bat. Always make sure that the face of the bat is turned towards point at the top of the pick up.

We are now ready to receive the ball. When do we actually pick up the bat? In most cases it is safe to do so as the bowler's arm is coming up to deliver the ball. Remember to keep your head still, as it is difficult to focus on the ball if your head is moving about. The bat will, of course, be picked up a little earlier for the fast bowler; but having now mastered the grip, stance and pick up you will soon find you are able to adjust this timing.

THE STANCE

Right foot square, balance of body on both feet, hands close to body, toe of bat at end of right foot.

THE PICK-UP

Note fan of bat towards Point, head steady, balance of body on both feet. Wrists cocked, back of right hand square to leg side.

JOHN MACADAM SAYS

These Lack-Of-Action Cricketers Should Be Playing Croquet

When they start talking about Brighter Cricket, we are inclined to wince and think back to the occasion when Groucho Marx threw a party in Hollywood.

It was announced during cocktails that Groucho would play the violin, and true enough, at a signal, he came down the staircase sawing away very creditably on an instrument that had never known the hand of Stradivarius.

He got halfway down the staircase and through "Moonlight and Roses" when the violin burst into flames.....

"You've always been talking about brighter music," he barked, and that was the end of that recital.

Now, Colonel Rait Kerr, at Lord's, tells county secretaries about the bad effect on public interest in the game of cricket of too many drawn games.

How right he is—although it isn't immediately apparent how you are going to stop them.

We have already risked mayhem by suggesting that Test matches should be taken away from Manchester altogether and concentrated on Lord's; we hesitate to stick the chin out further by proposing a financial penalty on cricketers who play palpably for the draw.

Maybe they have been punished enough by the falling-off in attendance of those members of the public prepared to be bored by their playing for safety. Such a master as Jack Hobbs is on record as having said that he'd prefer nowadays the village green to the average county ground.

Soccer spectators want goals. Boxing fans want knock-downs, and supporters of cricket want runs. They won't get them from the timid average-hunters who make up such a great percentage of too many present-day county sides.

There is no doubt that the opening day is the day when that ball should be hit and hit hard and hit often....."Modern cricketers," said the colonel "have been known to maintain that it is better to be 70 for no wicket at lunch on the first day than 120 for 3....."

PROS. TO BLAME

The only word we would quarrel with in that sentence is the word "cricketers." Anybody maintaining sentiments like that is no cricketer. He should be playing croquet.

Who to blame for all this? The great cavaliers of the game were mostly amateurs who had nothing much at stake. The fact that the game has become staffed largely by professionals who feel that they have to play safe may have sent it into the safety channels, but, even at that, there is still room for adventure.

The Australians and the South Africans and the New Zealanders, and certainly the West Indians, are full of the spirit of cricket, the fire and the fury and the fun of it. It is the counties who are stultifying cricket, and it is about time they stopped their nonsense.

It is up to the pro's, who are 90 per cent. of the game today. If they keep crowds away by their lack of will-to-score they saw in half the staff of life.

Action! And more action — even if it means sending them to watch baseball for a couple of weeks.

—(London Express Service)

Promoter Mills Will Do His Own Match-Making

Freddie Mills, ex-world cruiser-weight champion, will do his own match-making when he becomes promoter at Empress Hall, Earls Court, next March.

"I think I know enough about it by now to see that as many youngsters as possible get a chance of showing themselves," he said.

The 32-year-old Mills, who retired from active boxing after losing his world title to Joey Maxim (United States) in January of last year, is newcomer to promoting.

He has been running a short but successful series of tournaments at Bristol this year.

TOO COMPLEX

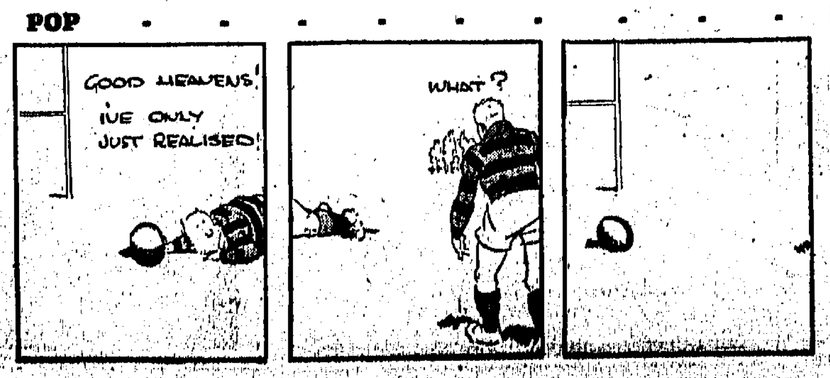
David Braitman and Ronald Ezra, who Mills succeeds at Empress Hall, had few comments to offer on the new arrangements.

Said promoter Braitman: "You can say there have been differences of opinion at Empress Hall, but the position is too complex for any definite statements just now. We shall be having a meeting later in the week."

Mills said that he hoped to promote monthly boxing at Southampton in the New Year.

—(London Express Service)

POP



Keeping his head!

South China And Army Face Stiff Opposition This Afternoon

By "SPIV"

The two League leaders, South China and Army, face their stiffest opposition in their remaining first round matches this afternoon.

South China, who are only one point ahead of Army at the top of the table, will be opposed to fifth-placed Kitchee at Caroline Hill and Army will have sixth-placed Kwong Wah as their opponents at Sookunpoo.

The champion South China XI have not had a match since their disappointing display against Sing Tao in the Challenge Shield tie a fortnight ago, when they lost by two goals to nil, and much will depend this afternoon on how much they have recovered their shaken confidence.

Their defeat by Sing Tao in the Challenge Shield match showed that the youthful though fast South China XI were still an inexperienced side.

They were too keyed-up on that occasion and were lost when they found themselves dominated by the superior short-passing tactics of their opponents. More open play and greater utilisation of the speed on the run would have given them better result.

Despite their being surprisingly held to a 1-1 draw by CAA last week, Kitchee are a well-balanced team, with two experienced leaders in Tse Kam-hung and Liu Shu-wing.

Tse Kam-ho in the forward line is a potential goal scorer when given adequate support, and it will not be surprising to see them holding the champions to a draw, although the odds are in favour of the Caroline Hill Club who will have Hoo Ah-kau, Mak Ching-wah and Chan Chor-wing, all rested from their recent fixtures for this match.

Comparatively Army have had little to [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[

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"SHENGKING"	Keelung	Noon 29th Dec.*
"KWEIYANG"	Singapore, Djakarta & Sourabaya	10 a.m. 30th Dec
"SZECHUEN"	Yokohama, Nagoya, Osaka & Kobe	5 p.m 1st Jan
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*"BENLOMOND"	Havre, Liverpool, Glasgow & Avonmouth.	6th Jan.
§"BENRINNES"	Avonmouth, Havre & London.	23rd Jan.
"BENVORLICH"	Direct to Singapore, thence London, Hamburg & Hull.	29th Jan.
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the BOYS and GIRLS PAGE

BIRD-LIKE APPETITE

By Julia Wolfe

YOU know what a finicky eater a canary is, and how you must feed him certain kinds of food. So you can imagine the job of a keeper of wild birds at a zoo. But, for all that, these keepers say, birds are easier to please than four-legged beasts. Birds eat the same kind of food day after day.

Even so, the chief cook at a zoo must know what rare birds eat, or they won't eat at all. There are four kinds of birds: soft billed, hard-billed, meat eaters and fish eaters.

Soft-billed

THRUSHES, jays and robins are among the soft-billed birds who eat many kinds of food. They feed on worms, insects, berries and wild fruits. Sometimes in a zoo they'll eat meat, potatoes, poppy seed, boiled eggs and ant eggs. These are ground fine, well mixed and baked. The cooking kills the germs and parasites. For "Sunday dinner" the soft-billed birds sometimes get boiled rice, sliced bananas, apples and bits of bread.

Gravel is placed in all bird cages, since this is necessary for their digestive processes.

Hard-billed

CANARIES, sparrows, pigeons, parrots and other birds are of the hard-billed type. They eat a much less varied diet than the soft-billed types. Their diet is largely seeds. Smaller birds are given canary seed, hemp, millet seed and Indian thistle seed. Larger birds eat sunflower seed, corn and barley.

Meat eaters

THE American eagle is a meat-eater. He is given meat raw, cut into small pieces. Occasionally he'll eat fish. But eagles are hard to please. They do not like mice as do some other birds, such as owls, hawks and crows. But they like horse meat which is given them in place of beef in these days of high-priced meat. And because they don't exercise much when kept in a zoo, eagles must fast one day a week.

Fish eaters

FISH eaters include herons, pelicans, ducks, swans and others. The fish they eat are cleaned and washed at the zoo.

Strangely, the larger birds, excepting buzzards and vultures who eat almost anything, are more finicky than small ones. Sometimes they refuse to eat, but keepers pay little attention to these fits of temperament unless the fast is prolonged. Then the bird is usually sick and he is sent to the bird hospital. Sometimes birds suffer from mental ailments, just like people. Birds have emotions and are sometimes high strung. They can be affectionate, angry and sympathetic. When one loses its mate, he will sometimes pine away and die. Often physical ills are more easily cured by the zoo veterinary.

Don't overeat

BIRDS are unlike animals in that they don't overeat, with the exception of new arrivals. Usually when a bird arrives at the zoo he will eat too much, but this is because he was improperly fed on the trip to the zoo. Many come long distances over land and sea. But the keepers know how to regulate diet and this fault is usually corrected.

Food also has an effect on the colour of some birds. The scarlet tanager, who is flaming in the northern woods, becomes lemon yellow as he does in winter, in the zoo. This is because he doesn't have certain insects in his diet. Zoo keepers haven't found out what is missing. The toucan fades in colour rapidly in captivity. This is also probably due to a lack in his diet.

Hardly Anyone's Seen Santa

—But Mr. Punch Knew Him Well—

By MAX TRELL

"Have you ever seen Santa?" Hanid asked Punch.

"NOW as you all know," said Mr Punch to Knarf and Hanid, the shadow-children with the turned-about names, "there is hardly anyone in the world, young or old, who hasn't heard of Santa Claus. Some call him St Nick, or Kris Kringle, or Father Christmas, or just plain Santa. But the curious thing is this: so many people have heard of him, but hardly anyone has ever seen him."

Mr Punch paused to light his pipe, and to smile while he was lighting it. For it did seem funny to him that so well-known a personage should be unseen to all his millions of friends. Suddenly, just as Mr Punch's pipe was lit, Hanid said: "Have you ever seen Santa Claus, Mr Punch?"

SMOKE RINGS

"Certainly!" he replied. Then he puffed at his pipe and blew several smoke rings into the air.

"You have!" cried Knarf and Hanid together. "Where?"

"Why," said Mr Punch, "I thought I told you. We both lived on the same block. We both played together in the same street. We both went to the same school. Then I took up my kind of work; and I moved here, and he moved up to his workshop at the North Pole. So from then on we didn't see each other as often as we used to when we were younger."

"Oh!" said Knarf, who seemed quite surprised to hear all this.

"But we still meet once a year. On Christmas Eve, to be exact."

Hanid was silent for a few moments. She peered at Mr Punch closely. "Are you sure you're telling us the truth, Mr Punch?"

"My dear," said Mr Punch, looking hurt, "I always tell the truth!"

"Where did you and Santa Claus both live on the same block?" Knarf wanted to know.

Mr Punch looked around cautiously, then lowered his voice: "We lived on the same block right here in this very town. But no one knows it, only Santa Claus and I."

"In this town! Right here?" Hanid said in astonishment.

"Santa was just a chubby little boy when I first knew him. He looked like every other chubby little boy. He liked to race, and play tag, and hide in dark corners. Sometimes (but not very often) his mother would call him in for dinner and he wouldn't go right in and she would scold him for being late. Sometimes, too, he would climb under a fence and get his clothes muddy, or shinny up a tree and tear his stockings. He was exactly like every other little boy except, of course, that he (as I said before) was quite chubby. He had rosy cheeks even then, just as he has now. But he had no whiskers, and his tummy wasn't nearly as round as it is today."

JUST A BOY

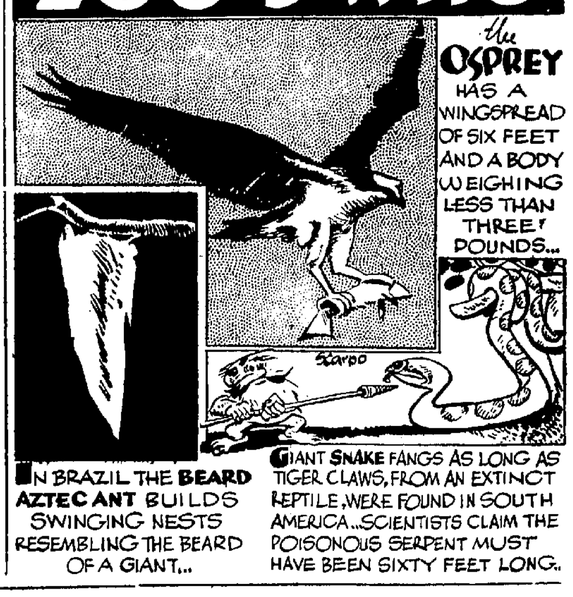
Knarf suddenly thought of something. "But Mr Punch, if Santa Claus was just a boy when you first knew him, who brought the toys to all the children on Christmas?"

"That's just it," said Mr Punch. "No one did. And that's why, when Santa grew older he said to me one day--'Punch, something is missing from Christmas.' Toys! No one brings the children any toys. Why not?"

"'I don't know,' I said to Santa. Then Santa smiled and said--'Punch, why don't you and I do something about this? Why don't we bring the children toys?'"

Mr Punch looked at Knarf and Hanid and sighed. "You know," he said, "I had a chance then to go into partnership with Santa Claus. He said he was going to a far-away place where there was plenty of room to build a big workshop to make toys in. He begged me to go with him. 'I'll make the toys,' he said, 'and you can deliver them, Punch.' But I said no. I said I was going to stay here, and not go to the North Pole. But I should have gone. Because then, perhaps, children would have said—Look here comes Punch with Santa's toys! Merry Christmas!"

ZOO'S WHO



FACTS ABOUT CHRISTMAS

FATHER CHRISTMAS isn't a Laplander at all, and never saw a reindeer in his life! He was actually a Greek Bishop, Nicholas of Myra, who lived in the fourth century. Generous and shy, he hated to be thanked for the presents he was continually making to those in need.

Because of this, he climbed a roof top to drop a purse of gold down the chimney, so that no one would see. The money, instead of falling in the fireplace, dodged in a child's stocking that had been hung up to dry from the mantelpiece. That is how the hanging of a Christmas stocking began. Whenever unexpected gifts came from unknown sources, they were attributed to St Nicholas.

His vogue was spread in America by German and Scandinavian settlers, and introduced from there to England at the end of the eighteenth century. His name, St. Nicholas, became "Santa Claus," although in England he is generally known as "Father Christmas." His gown of scarlet trimmed with white fur is a Swiss idea.

* * *

The first certain reference to December 25 as Christmas Day is dated A.D. 354.

* * *

Some early patriarchs, including Origen and Clement of Alexandria, thought it singular to celebrate Christmas.

December 25 was the birthday of the unconquered sun in the religion of Mithras, which flourished in the Roman Empire.

* * *

The Venerable Bede of Jarrow (A.D. 673-735) wrote: "The ancient peoples of the Angli began the year on December 25...and the very night that is now so holy they called in their language 'Modranecht', which means 'Mother's Night'.

COLD WORDS

Each of these five words end in ICE and each has six letters. Fill in the missing letters from the definitions:

——ICE (public protective force)
——ICE (spite)
——ICE (interweave)
——ICE (place of business)
——ICE (guidance)

Answers on Page 20.

Rupert and the Lion Rock—16

The shouts of the two friends soon attract attention. The little doors are opened, some bundles are dragged out and next minute Rupert is facing a rough scowling man. "Please can you put us ashore," says Rollo. "Hub, so you're stowaways, are you?" shouts the man. "Come on out. You'll find you've chosen the wrong boat for that game, and we're not turning back for you." And grabbing them both he drags them away and up to the man at the wheel.

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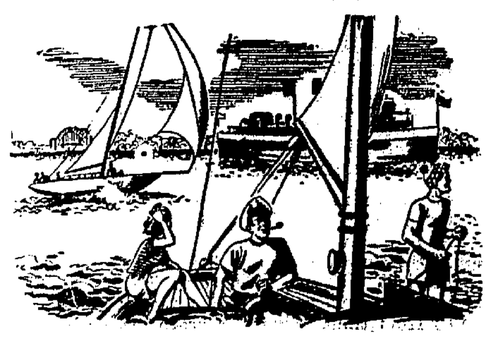

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	NORTH (D)	6
	♠ K Q 6	
	♥ K 7 2	
	♦ A K Q 9 6 3	
	♣ 7	
WEST		EAST
♠ J 10 8 5		♠ 7 4 3 2
♥ 5		♥ Q J 4
♦ 7 4		♦ J 8 2
♣ A 10 9 6 3 2		♣ Q J 5
	SOUTH	
	♠ A 9	
	♥ A 10 9 8 6 3	
	♦ 10 5	
	♣ K 8 4	

Both sides vul.

North	East	South	West
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	6 ♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening lead—♣ A

By OSWALD JACOBY

"WHAT is your comment of the bidding of this hand?" asks an Atlanta correspondent. West opened the ace of clubs, and East eventually got a trump [illegible]

Would you say that North and South were guilty of overbidding?"

Curiously enough, I'm not able to put the finger on either player. The bidding looks perfectly reasonable to me.

If South fails to bid three diamonds at his second turn he doesn't deserve to get good cards. And when South bids the heart, North has every reason to be aggressive in that suit.

Now let's get the bidding from South's point of view. North can easily have slightly stronger hearts and slightly weaker spades and then the slam is cold. Or North can have the ace of clubs in which case he can afford to bid a little on three for the lack of hearts. There are dozens of hands that North can have which will offer a much better play for the slam than North's actual hand.

Moreover, even on the actual hand South had a pretty good play for the slam. Suppose West had failed to take his ace of clubs. After all, aces are seldom led against slam contracts. If West opens a spade South wins, draws two rounds of trumps, discards a club on dummy's third spade and then runs the diamonds. By the time East ruffs South has discarded all of his clubs.

Even when West makes the killing opening lead of the club ace South still has a chance for his slam. Trumps have been known to break 2-2 or South may find a singleton honor in the West hand and guess. The right play on the second round of trumps.

The mere fact that South did not make the slam this particular time does not mean that the hand was badly bid. The bidding should be considered sound if it will lead to successful results in the long run on similar hands.

CARD Sense

Q. The bidding has been:

North	East	South	West
1 heart	2d	Pass	

You, South, hold: Spades A-J-9-4-2, Hearts K-J-9, Diamonds 3-2, Clubs A-K-10. What do you do?

A. Bid one spade. With another queen, with better distribution, or even with just a better fit for diamonds you would jump to two spades, but as the hand stands you cannot quite afford the jump bid. A jump response of three no-trump would not be bad, but you might miss a game that depends on a spade fit.

YOUR BIRTHDAY.... By STELLA

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22

Born today, you have one of more brilliant, overactive minds. You are keenly conscious of others, and very well-liked. You are a natural humanitarian and will always find a new and different way to do even the most ordinary job.

Parents of children born on this day should make sure their progeny have some interesting and constructive activity from their earliest years. Suggest, don't push. Encourage, don't insist. Mischief is the only answer to idleness. Expect it if you can't keep an active, growing mind interested. Remember inventiveness can be utilized for good or bad.

You adults may have some of the same problems only on a different level. You originate ideas and then are afraid they won't catch on. Yet you dislike asking for or accepting advice. You prefer to act upon your own intuitions secretly rather than co-operate with others openly. You will make a financial sacrifice to do something you want to do and if you don't like the job at hand you'll show ingenuity in turning up one you do like.

This fluidity of idea gives you a certain restlessness that must be compensated for in some fashion. It is likely that you need more than the average amount of rest to build up your nervous energies and keep them at top pitch.

You women are particularly attractive to members of the opposite sex and will have many suitors. You take great joy in having your own home and will be happiest if you wed early in life.

To find what the stars have in store for tomorrow select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20)—If going home for Christmas it's a good idea to make a start if you couldn't get away yesterday.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—Plan to see Christmas in town. It can be a jolly Christmas celebration if you choose.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)—There's a change in your outlook and the emphasis is on community events rather than business advancement.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)—Be thankful if someone comes up with some advice to solve a trouble some problem. Make good use of it.

TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21)—If confused, seek spiritual aspects that you may find to be helpful.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)—A get-together with friends at your church may bring exceptional joy to the young in heart.

CANCER (June 22-July 23)—You have many blessings for which to give thanks. Don't neglect your devotional duties.

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)—Work and employment will be in good accord for the next four weeks. Take advantage of this.

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)—Be careful if traveling today. A careless step could cause an accident. Try to avoid crowded places.

LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)—Friendliness will pay good dividends today. Exert yourself to be socially gracious when entertaining.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)—Be thankful for what the past year has brought. Count your blessings on Christmastide.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 22)—Christmas Sunday can mean a great deal to you this year. Also a children's day.

BORN on the first day of the upcoming new Capricorn you are blessed by Saturn the god of time. You have a sense of universality and are a natural ambassador of good will, father confessor and counsellor for all those who are in need of help. Loving, kind and considerate to all, you must not let your natural instincts be unduly imposed upon.

You have a good understanding of the world-at-large and although your ideals are very high and you sometimes defy prevailing thought you are very practical. Your ability in building castles in the air is surprising how many of your ideas materialize successfully. This is probably due in part to the fact that you inspire the confidence of others and cooperation becomes the basis of mutual help and eventual success.

Although you are not a great conversationalist, you are capable of extensive opinions on many different things and can deliver excellent extemporaneous addresses when called upon. You have a natural talent for public addresses when called upon. Your imagination and dramatic sense are keen and you love fun. Your imagination and dramatic sense are keen and you love fun. You probably can write easily and vividly. Your sense of humour is sharp but good natured and comes out unexpectedly.

Naturally affectionate you are not, however, the type to fall in love at first sight. You probably will wed someone you have known for a long time. Happiness and contentment should be the result.

To find what the stars have in store for tomorrow select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20)—The night before Christmas can open a real deal to you. Do your utmost with family perhaps.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—You may need to call upon all your tact to solve a problem today. Be sure of your social protocol.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)—A busy day. Take care of each detail as it comes up and you will get everything finished in time.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)—Pay no attention to gossip especially if it is malicious. Intended it can only harm the one who started it.

TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21)—Even if you have had to work during the day, you can be through in time to spend a happy Christmas Eve.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)—Loving cheerful today can bring happiness to everyone. A business party you can help do.

CANCER (June 22-July 23)—Practical enjoyment can be yours. The traditional evening for rummage the tree is here.

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)—This should be an exceptionally happy evening for those of your own. Bring joy, too, to children.

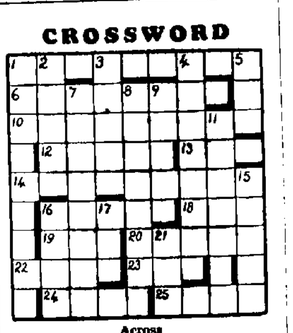
VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)—Be conservative in making preparations. Emotionalism must be kept under control, too.

LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)—This will be a busy day for you. Make full use of every minute to take care of all details.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)—An exciting day, but if you are calm and collected everything will go off on schedule.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 22)—This can be a magic evening for you. Spend it close at home with your family and find happiness.

CROSSWORD



Across
1. Cast a comb underground. (9)
6. Ray's hate for cigarettes. (6)
10. Great force to volley tin. (9)
12. Raved for a change. (5)
13. To ten, an order to speed up. (3)
14. Diminishing Len's singe. (9)
16. Centre piece. (6)
18. Associated with bill. (3)
19. Left handed newt. (3)
20. Extract from cash allowances. (5) 22. Lead in the valley? (4)
23. Fish. (3)
24. Disturbed eddy. (4) 25. A lot. (4)

Down
1. Company of riders. (9)
2. Made by actor. (5)
3. Holds maps. (5)
4. You imagine such characters. (8)
5. Utter. (3)
7. Was Pegasus like this insect? (8)
8. Transposed. (8)
9. About. (6)
11. Extract from sheep's wool. (7)
15. Black-faced doll. (5)
16. Go to the top for this. (4)
17. Consumed. (3)
21. Such a stitch is ornamental. (3)

Solution of yesterday's puzzle.—Across: 1. Pasture; 8. Otto; 9. Renew; 10. Sponge; 12. Tee; 13. Enjoin; 14. Anvil; 16. Toucs; 20. Ology; 23. Reversed; 24. Snee; 25. Moose. Down: 1. Position; 2. Alpenhorn; 3. Sioux; 4. Tonga; 5. Urgent; 6. Keen; 7. Sweep; 11. Savor; 15. Isle; 16. Pice; 17. Ovve; 18. Aide; 21. Gem; 22. Yes.

• BY • THE • WAY •

by Beachcomber

LAWYERS have discovered another possible problem in international relations. By the Chicago Convention of 1944 it is recognised that every State has complete sovereignty over the airspace above its territory.

But the lawyers want to know what will happen when rocket satellites are whizzing round and round the earth several times a day. How high does sovereignty extend? And what is a protesting country to do about it? Moreover, if a rocket fired at the moon passes over the territory of a State which has not given its permission for such an escapade, the crew may plant its own flag on an interplanetary island anchored in space, and thus start a war about 251,368 feet up. And if all space belongs to one country or another, somebody is sure to fortify the moon against landings, on the plea that the space immediately beneath the moon is part of his country's national space.

Eat what you wear

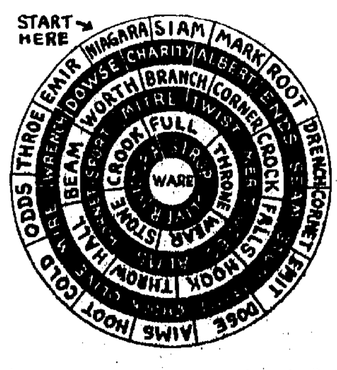
WHEN I announced that hats were to be made of cheese-rind and blotting paper, it must have been a double misprint. I have just read that hats have been made from peanuts and dried milk in Manchester. This means that West End hatters will soon keep herds of cows, and employ statisticians to compute the hat-yield per cow. Since such hats can be made palatable by the addition of a pinch of salt, hatters ought to do a roaring trade. Eat What You Wear And Make Ends Meet.

The Hidden Rhinoceros (IV)

"OH," said Sztetzonhalty, "you have come all the way from England to bring us a sausage." "Ah," said Driftwood-Dawkins, "but it is not an ordinary one. It is the most powerful sausage in Europe, containing chemicals hitherto unknown even to food experts. Have no fear"—for the Director and his interpreter had drawn back in alarm—"this is only a dummy. I have the formula by heart." Gingerly the Director handled the non-deadly article. "Then he present a bell, Send Professor Munkbitznes," he said to an orderly. An aged man with piercing blue eyes shuffled into the room. "In your opinion, Professor," asked the Director, "would it be possible to construct a sausage of breakfast size so poisonous that the mind recoils from contemplating it?" Munkbitznes breathed on his spectacles and replaced them, more heavily clouded than before, on his nose. "Food experts," he said, "have already performed marvels. The difficulty would be to make people eat such a thing." Sztetzonhalty drew himself up proudly. "We may safely leave that part of the affair," he said, "to Diet-Controller Boildkabj and his very capable staff."

DARTWORDS

STARTING point for Dartwords players this week is a famous spot recently visited by Princess Elizabeth—NIAGARA. The last word brings you home to an English town—WARE. You have to arrange the other 48 words so that the relationship between any word and the one next to it is governed by one of six rules.



RULES

1. The word may be an anagram of the word that precedes it.
2. It may be a synonym of the word that precedes it.
3. It may be achieved by adding one letter to, subtracting one letter from, or changing one letter in the preceding word.
4. It may be associated with the preceding word in a saying, simile, metaphor or association of ideas.
5. It may form with the preceding word a name of a well-known person or place in fact or fiction.
6. It may be associated with the preceding word in title or action of a book, play or other composition.

No word may be used more than twice consecutively.

A typical succession might be: Widespread — General — Election — Selection — Pick — Pack — Pace — Cape — Horn.

(Solution on Page 20)

INTELLIGENCE TEST

The forests fall

By T. O. HARE

The forests fall, the wise man plants more trees;
Not all need bear the fruits for which we sigh;
Goals tend to fade; yet truth does greatly please;
There are no comets seen when liars die."

THE author is the now-forgotten Hough Houghton. The stanza is interesting in that it contains four "bigrams" in each line two consecutive words form an anagram of the name of a Victorian statesman.

Who are the four statesmen?

(Solution on Page 20)

CHESS PROBLEM

By G. JONSSON

Black, 10 pieces

White, 10 pieces

White to play, mate in two.

Solution to yesterday's problem:

1. K—Kt4, any; 2. Q, R, or B (dis ch) mates.

ROYAL INTEROCEAN LINES

SAILINGS To

"TJIWANGI"	Dec. 23rd	Singapore, Java & Macassar
"TASMAN"	Jan. 5th	Singapore, Djakarta, Belawan Deli & Penang
"RUYS"	Jan 5th	Manila, Singapore, Africa & S. America
"TJIKAMPEK"	Jan 7th	Djakarta, Tjirebon, Semarang, Surabaia & Macassar
"TJILUWAH"	Jan. 10th	MAIDEN VOYAGE To Singapore, Java & Macassar
"VAN HEUTSZ"	Jan. 10th	Japan Ports
"TJIBADAK"	Jan. 17th	Singapore, Penang & Belawan Deli
"TJITJALENGKA"	Jan 18th	Japan
"BOISSEVAIN"	Jan 18th	Japan Ports
"TJIPANAS"	Jan 24th	Japan Ports
"TJIWANGI"	Jan. 28th	Singapore, Java & Macassar
"TJITJALENGKA"	Feb. 8th	Manila, Singapore, Africa & S. America
"TJILUWAH"	Feb. 11th	Singapore, Java & Macassar
"TJIWANGI"	Feb 28th	Singapore, Java & Macassar
"TJISADANE"	Mar. 5th	Manila, Singapore, Africa & S. America
"TJILUWAH"	Mar 15th	Singapore, Java & Macassar

ARRIVALS From

"TJITJALENGKA"	Jan 1st	Macassar, Java Ports & Singapore
"RUYS"	Jan 2nd	Japan
"VAN HEUTSZ"	Jan. 9th	B. Deli, Djakarta & Singapore
"BOISSEVAIN"	Jan. 15th	S. America, Africa, Singapore & Manila
"TJIWANGI"	Jan 19th	Macassar, Java & Singapore
"TJIPANAS"	Jan. 20th	S. America, Africa, Singapore & Manila.

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SAILINGS TO EUROPE

"AAGTEKERK"	Jan.	13th
"OVERIJSEL"	Feb.	6th
"HOOGKERK"	Mar	7th
"ARENDSKERK"	Apr	7th
"KIELDRECHT"	May	7th

SAILINGS FROM EUROPE

	Sails Rotterdam	Arrives Hongkong
"OVERIJSEL"	Dec. 1st	Jan. 5th
"HOOGKERK"	Dec 31st	Feb. 4th
"ARENDKERK"	Jan. 30th	Mar. 6th
"KIELDRECHT"	Mar. 5th	Apr. 10th

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"TRADE WIND"	San Francisco	In Port	Dec 22	San Francisco & Los Angeles
"ALASKA BEAR"	Straits	Dec 30	Dec 31	San Francisco & Los Angeles via Kobe
"FLYING SCUD"	San Francisco	Jan 20	Jan. 21	San Francisco & Los Angeles
"CHINA BEAR"	San Francisco	Feb 6	Feb 7	San Francisco & Los Angeles via Yokohama

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NAVY-CLUB MATCH TODAY SHOULD BE A CLOSE ONE

Says "HANLINCODE"

The sixth round of the Pentangular Rugby Tournament is being played off on the Club Ground at Happy Valley this afternoon. In the first bout the Police are pitted against the formidable Army XV and following this the mighty Club are entertaining the Navy. The matches are at 3 p.m. and 4.25 p.m. respectively.

The games today are the opening fixtures for the second half of the competition and at this juncture it is perhaps worth looking over the results of the first half.

The head of the race for the championship is thus far held by the Club who have won all their games. The Police have won four out of five, the only loss coming at the hands of the Army. The Army have won three and lost two, the Club having only defeated the Navy by one point and the A.R.P. by a penalty goal.

The second place is held by the Army who, like the Club, only just defeated the Navy by the odd point. Hollaways then have the Sailors, but in third place with the Police and RAF lagging quite a long distance behind.

From this it will have been noted that today's match between the Army and Police should not prove decisive for the championship. The Army are facing a strong side and the Police will have to go all out to make an impression.

Skevington unfortunately, still [illegible] and Cobern, Jenkins, Brockley, Gibson, Jenkins and Hughes will be the absentees from the Police team. The advantage of these two extra players, had they been available, would have been that the Police would have had a shorter interval today than last week which judging by the former playing display was considered by some to be the Sailors' only chance.

OUT OF THE DOLDRUMS

The second game of the day is a League match between the Club and Navy. It is a good fixture which will bring together two of the old-timers that have been in for the last few years. The Club are a good side this season but they have had their share of injuries and have not been able to field their strongest team on many occasions. The Navy, however, are a fast, clever team and have been in the doldrums for a long time. Although not as strong as in some previous years the Navy are a good side and will take some stopping, they have a good pack, 10 and fast, but will miss Hubert Jones, the pack leader.

Their hooker is the best in the Colony and if the two new halves who are playing today can get the backs working, then those past masters in the centre, Norman and Lattey will have to be watched very closely by the Club.

The Club are fielding their usual side and can be relied upon to go all out for the whole time. This should prove to be a very fine game and while I favour the Club to bring home the bacon it will not be by many points.

The whole thing rather hinges on the performance put up by the Navy's halves and in this most unpredictable of games, rugby, anything can happen if these two strike form. One must remember that they have a good pack in front and an excellent line behind them. I have no doubt that these two will try very hard.

This is a game to be seen and should prove well worth the journey to the Valley.

There is to be a curtain raiser at 2.00 p.m. when the Club Strollers will be at home to No. 6 FOD XV.

TEAMS

Army: Markham, Fotheringill, Clayden, Hartland, Reynolds, Lawes, Arnold, Baume, Yeo, Evans, Roden, Deacock, Thomas, O'Neill, Crafter.

Police: Tebbutt, English, Scott, McNiven, Sherrard-Smith, Russell, Stephens, Russell, Jonstone, Perry, Martin, Wright-Nooth, Saunders, A. N. Other.

Navy: A. N. Other, Sampson, Lattey, Norman, Ruddman, Stanford, Terry, Morrison, Owen, Hamilton, Howarth, Wade, Francis, Thomas, Sims.

Club: J. Henderson, Campbell, Stewart, D. Henderson, Layton, Nolan, Craig, Robson, Petrie, Hutson, Minto, Farquharson, Lachlan, Talamo, Warne.

SPRINGBOK VICTORY EXPECTED

Cardiff, Dec. 21.

[illegible] Wales are expected to field [illegible] Cardiff Arms Park tomorrow. South Africa should regain their third [illegible] Union international [illegible]

[illegible] have been drawn [illegible] and Ireland and the [illegible] Wales [illegible] the [illegible] Ireland [illegible] Ireland cannot beat Wales [illegible] placed Dundee [illegible]

Wales have a formidable [illegible] but a great forward outlook. Likely to decide the match.

The Welsh pack is heavier than usual though all are weighed by the Welsh Spaniards and most will [illegible] have already [illegible]

The crowd has been reduced to 50,000. The demand for tickets was such that four times the number could have been sold and fantastic prices [illegible] being offered.

The team are as follows:

Wales: G. W. Rees, K. Jones, M. Thomas, B. Williams, E. Jones, C. Morgan, R. Williams, W. D. Williams, D. M. Davies, H. Hayward, R. E. Jones, R. Stephens, L. Blyth, J. A. Watkins, [illegible] and A. Cale.

South Africa: J. Buchler, P. Johnston, R. Van Schoor, M. Lategan, J. Gerber, J. Bekker, P. Du Toit, C. Koch, W. DeSmidt, A. Gibbon, S. Fry, W. Barnard, J. [illegible], Ralton, P. Van Wyk and P. Muller (captain). Reuter.

Complaint By Vatican

Vatican City, Dec. 21.

Vatican Radio reported today that the Israeli Government had [illegible] the Church of the Ormition on Mount Zion just outside the South-western border of Jerusalem.

The Church and hospice at Tagha on the Sea of Galilee had also been seized, the Radio said.

The broadcast declared that the Israeli measure was considered illegal because it concerned Church property which, as such, was supra-national.

The Ormition Church is under the care of German Benedictine monks and belongs to the German Society for the Holy Land headed by Cardinal Joseph Frings, Archbishop of Cologne, Vatican Radio added.—Reuter.

Crisis Looming In Chile

Santiago, Dec. 21.

The possibility of a Cabinet crisis arose today when the Education Minister, Bernardo Leighton, and the Minister of Lands and Colonisation, Ignacio Palma, handed their resignation to President Videla.

It was understood they resigned because they considered the President had not shown himself inclined to accept the plan for electoral reform.—Reuter.

DARTWORDS SOLUTION

Niagara — Falls — Victoria — Albert — Hall — Mark — Time — Emit — Emir — Mire — Mitre — Merit — Worth — Throw — Three — Throne — Hornet — Cornet — Corner — Stone — Cold — Charity — Alms — Alms — Slam — Seam — Beam — Ends — Odds — Odes — Dose — Dowse — Drench — Wrench — Twist — Oliver — Olive — Branch — Root — Hoot — Hoof — Crook — Crock — Chock — Full — Stop — Strop — Sport — Wear — Ware.
—(London Express Service)

Cold Words Solution

POLice, MALice; SPLice; OFFice; ADVice.

INTELLIGENCE TEST SOLUTION

The four names are those of Palmerston ("plants more"); Aberdeen ("need bear"); Gladstone ("goals send"); Disraeli ("liars die").
London Express Service.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith

"I understand all this except freedom of speech—I can't say what I'd like to say to my parents and teachers!"

Hungary To Put Crew Of American Plane On Trial

Budapest, Dec. 21.

The crew of the American C-47 plane which made a forced landing in Hungary will be tried by a Hungarian court, it was officially announced here today.

In a note handed to the United States Legation in Budapest, the Hungarian Government said that it considered as an established fact that the American plane had violated Hungarian air space with premeditation.

The plane, the Hungarian note added, had flown over Hungarian territory with criminal purpose.

The aim, it implied, was to contact "Hungarian spies on Hungarian territory."

The Hungarian note further stated that since the United States Government did not judge fit to punish those responsible for the violation of Hungarian territory, the Hungarian Government would hand over to the Hungarian legal authorities Captain Henderson, Captain Swift, and Sergeants Duff and Elam who "have violated the Hungarian air space in criminal purpose."

"CRIMINAL PURPOSE"

The note added that the American plane, which was equipped with military maps, a radio transmitter and parachutes, had not come to Hungary to bring mail, but in "criminal purpose."

In its notes of December 3 and 11, the Hungarian Government had asked the United States Government to impose sanctions against persons responsible for violation of the Hungarian air space.

The Hungarian Government also asked to be informed of the sanctions thus taken.—France-Presse.

PREFERENCES AGREED

Paris, Dec. 21.

The Vietnamese Premier, M. Tran Van Huu, said yesterday that he agreed with a French proposal that future economic relations between France and Indo-China should be based on a system of preferential tariffs.

The Premier left Paris by air yesterday for Vietnam after attending the first session of the High Council of the French Union. The Council includes representatives from France and the three Associated States of Indo-China—Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos.

The Premier said that he would probably return to Paris after the Vietnamese New Year, celebrated on January 22. He would then define the Vietnamese position at the coming Franco-Indo China economic conference.—Reuter.

GREECE TO GET LESS AID

Athens, Dec. 21.

Greece is to receive from the United States $74,000,000 less than last year for the fiscal year ending next July.

Mr John Purifoy, United States Ambassador in Athens, informed the Greek Government today that aid for Greece would total $102,000,000. The total last year was $250,000,000.—Reuter.

Kashmir Mediator's Progress

Paris, Dec. 21.

The United Nations mediator in the Kashmir dispute, Dr Frank Graham, today submitted to the United Nations Security Council a 50-page report emphasising that divergencies of opinion remained between India and Pakistan regarding a concerted plan for the demilitarisation of Kashmir as a first step towards the future of this territory.

The report totals 35 pages of annexes and 14 pages of actual text.

Dr Graham mainly concentrated his effort on what in his opinion constituted the two fundamental points of difference between the parties with regard to his proposals for an agreement, namely, the minimum number of forces to be left on each side of the cease-fire line and the end of the period of demilitarisation, and

Secondly, the day on which the Government of India would cause a plebiscite administration to be formally appointed to office.

Dr Graham recalled that on October 15, 1951, agreement had been reached on four of the 12 proposals for an integrated plan of demilitarisation submitted to the Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan on September 1.

He could today report agreement on four more proposals.

There remained, however, four major points of disagreement to be ironed out.—France-Presse.

Informing The Next-Of-Kin

London, Dec. 21.

Lists of British prisoners of war in North Korea are now being transmitted from Tokyo to London.

It is hoped that the names of the prisoners listed will be communicated to the next-of-kin before Christmas.

British Far Eastern authorities have already checked them, and they are now to be rechecked in Britain by the commanders of the units to whom these prisoners belong.—France-Presse.

Living Language

Why we say Calendar.

In Rome the first day of every month was publicly called and therefore came to be known as the *calends* from the Latin "calare," to call. From this came the word *calendarium*, which was the account book kept by money-lenders, because interest was always calculated from the first of the month. Hence came our word "calendar," a register of the days and months of the year.

Adelaide Test Match Prospects

Adelaide, Dec. 21.

The West Indies, already two Tests down, cannot afford to fail in the third Test against Australia, starting here tomorrow, but few critics gave them a chance of victory.

The touring team, jogged by [illegible] have professed so [illegible] in Australia that even [illegible] their most ardent supporters [illegible] have doubts about the [illegible]

It is hard to recall any international team which had a worse record in Australia. In seven first-class matches played so far the West Indies have lost six and drawn one.

Those between have failed so often, particularly against the Australian speed attack, that many critics have been asking whether the team has been overrated.

It would seem that the best hope for the West Indies confounding their critics would be to win the toss and bat first. The soft pitch dried out well today under a hot sun and, with fine and mild weather forecast for tomorrow, there is every indication that the pitch should be ideal for batting, though it might have little life at the outset.

The teams are:

Australia: A. L. Hassett, J. Burke, N. Harvey, G. Hole, I. Johnson, W. Johnston, R. Lindwall, G. Langley, K. R. Miller, A. Morris, G. Noblet and D. Ring.

West Indies: J. Goddard, D. Atkinson, R. Christiani, G. Gomez, S. Guillen, R. Marshall, A. A. S. Ramadhin, J. Stollmeyer, J. Trim, A. Valentine, F. Worrell and E. Weekes.—Reuter.

Pranksters Busy In Washington

Washington, Dec. 21.

The Soviet Embassy and the Rumanian Legation were not alone in having their brass name-plates removed this week.

Two other embassies, those of Egypt and Chile, have since noticed the same phenomenon and informed the State Department.

The discovery was made official today with a statement by the State Department.

However, the Department's Press officer, Lincoln White, remarked that Egypt and Chile had reported the incident orally, and had not complained about it as the USSR and Rumania had done.

Mr White said the police were investigating the matter.—France-Presse.

Death Followed Injection

Milan, Dec. 21.

A laboratory assistant, Angelo Crescerl, who was charged with the manslaughter of a leading Italian research chemist by injecting him with a new drug, was released today after an inquiry by an investigating magistrate.

The chemist, Dr Giovanni Pauletta, died after the injection of the drug, which he wanted to test on his own system. Dr Pauletta was experimenting with a new chloromycetin drug, one of a group used for the treatment of pneumonia, dysentery, typhoid, typhus, whooping cough and mumps.—Reuter.

Mail Notices

Latest times of posting at G P O and at Kowloon Post Office: registered articles and parcel mails close one hour earlier than the ordinary mail times shown below:

Christmas Arrangements. On Sunday, December 23 and Tuesday, December 25, there will be one general delivery commencing 10 a.m. There will be no delivery on Wednesday, 26.

The public offices at the G P O and Kowloon P O will be open for the sale of stamps and delivery of parcels on Sunday, December 23, 9 a.m.-noon, all other offices will be closed.

On December 25 and 26 all public offices will be closed.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22
By Air

U.S.A., Canada, 2 p.m., P A A
Formosa, 3 p.m., C A T
Japan, 5 p.m., B O A C
Indo-China, France, French North & West Africa, 5 p.m., Air France

By Surface

Macao, 8 a.m., 6 p.m., ss Lee Hong/Tak Shing
China, People's Republic, 8.30 a.m., 5 p.m., train via Canton
Malaya, Burma, 2 p.m., ss Sangola
Japan, 2 p.m., ss Sirdhana
Philippines, 2 p.m., ss Tjanqueibar
Indonesia, 5 p.m., ss Tjiwangi
India, 5 p.m., ss Lok Sang

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23
By Air

Formosa, 5 p.m., via H K Airways

By Surface

Macao, 1 p.m., ss Tai Loy

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24
By Air

Japan, 5 p.m., via B O A C
Formosa, Okinawa, U S A, Canada, 5 p.m., H K A/N W A L, Siam, Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, 5 p.m., C P A
Indo-China, 5 p.m., C P A

By Surface

Macao, 8 a.m., 6 p.m., ss Lee Hong/Tak Shing
China, People's Republic, 8.30 a.m., 5 p.m., train via Canton
Malaya, Ceylon, Madagascar, Aden, Great Britain, Europe, Noon, ss Asiamus
Philippines, 1 p.m., ss Aagtekerk

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25
By Air

Indo-China, France, French North & West Africa, 10 a.m., via Air France
Formosa, Japan, 11 a.m., C A T
Siam, Burma, India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain, Europe, 11.30 a.m., B O A C
Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, Ceylon, Pakistan, Middle East Africa Great Britain, Europe, 5 p.m., B O A C
N. Borneo, 5 p.m., C P A
Philippines, Guam, Hawaii U.S.A., Canada, 5 p.m., P A L
Formosa, 5 p.m., C A T
Siam, Burma, India, 5 p.m., P O A S

By Surface

Macao, 5 p.m., P O A S
China, People's Republic, 5 p.m., train via Canton.

Living Costs In America At New High

Washington, Dec. 21.

The Government reported today that the United States' cost of living had hit a new all-time high.

As a result, more than 1,000,000 railroad workers will get an immediate four-cent an hour raise in pay.

The new high also raises another notch on the Government's ceiling on wage increases under the Wage Stabilisation Board's cost of living formula.

The Bureau of Labour Statistics reported that both the new and old consumer price indexes for November 15 had hit a new record high.

The new index reached 188.6 per cent of the 1935-38 period, calculated at 100.

The new index showed that retail prices of goods and services bought by medium income urban families averaged 6/100th of one per cent higher than on October 15.—United Press.

Millionth Fatality Expected

Chicago, Dec. 21.

The traffic death rate accelerated today as the United States neared its millionth motor fatality since the advent of automobile.

At 1630 GMT, the National Safety Council estimates the toll since the first fatal automobile accident in 1899 at 999,800.

The increased tempo was attributed in part to the fact that driving conditions were bad and the accident rate was increasing with the approach of Christmas holidays.

The millionth traffic victim, designated as "Mr Million" by the Safety Council, is due to die about noon on Saturday. The death will be part of the Christmas holiday toll which is expected to reach a record-breaking figure.—United Press.

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Information on any matter relating to social welfare will be gladly supplied by the Secretary

Office: 403, China Building.
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NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

m.v. "AGAPENOR"

Damaged cargo ex this vessel will be surveyed by Messrs Goddard & Douglas at Holt's Wharf from 10 a.m. on December 24 and 26, 1951 and consignees are requested to have their representatives present during the survey.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.

Hong Kong, December 22, 1951.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

s.s. "PERSEUS"

Damaged cargo ex this vessel will be surveyed at Holt's Wharf between 10 a.m. and noon on December 26 and 27, 1951, and consignees are requested to have their representatives present during the survey.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.

Hong Kong, December 22, 1951.

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HONGKONG
PUBLISHED DAILY (AFTERNOONS)
Price, 20 cents per copy.
Saturdays 30 cents
Subscription: $6.00 per month.
Postage: China and Macao $1.60 per month, U.K., British Possessions and other countries $3.00 per month.
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NOTICE

BANK HOLIDAYS

The Exchange Banks will be closed for the transaction of public business on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 25th and 26th December, 1951. (Christmas Holidays).

Hongkong, 22nd Dec., 1951.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

Consignees per
BARBER-WILHELMSEN LINE
m.s. "TITANIA"

are hereby notified that their cargo is being discharged into the Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co's godown where it will be at consignees risk and subject to the Wharf's terms and condition of storage and where delivery may be obtained.

Damaged packages are to be left in the godowns for examination by Consignees and the Company's surveyors, Messrs. Goddard & Douglas at 10 a.m. on the 26th December, 1951.

To comply with the General Bonded Warehouse Regulations, consignees must have a Revenue Officer in attendance when damaged dutiable goods are examined.

No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the steamer's Godown, and all goods remaining undelivered after the 27th December, 1951, will be subject to rent.

All claims against the steamer must be presented to the Undersigned on or before the 3rd January, 1952, or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance will be affected.

DODWELL & CO., LTD.
Agents.

JEANNETTE'S
Prince's Building, Phone 23656
OPEN ALL DAY TODAY & TOMORROW
FLOWERS, DECORATIONS CONFECTIONS

Printed and published by WILLIAM ALICK GRINHAM for and on behalf of South China Morning Post Limited at 1-3 Wyndham Street, City of Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong.